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THE
STATISTICAL ACCOUNT
OF
SCOTLAND.

DRAWN UP FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS

OF THE
MINISTERS

OF THE
DIFFERENT PARISHES.

BY SIR JOHN SINCLAIR, BART.

VOLUME TWENTIETH.

"Ad consilium de republica dandum, caput est, nosse rempublicam."
CICERO, de Orat. lib. ii.

EDINBURGH:

PRINTED AND SOLD BY WILLIAM CREECH ;

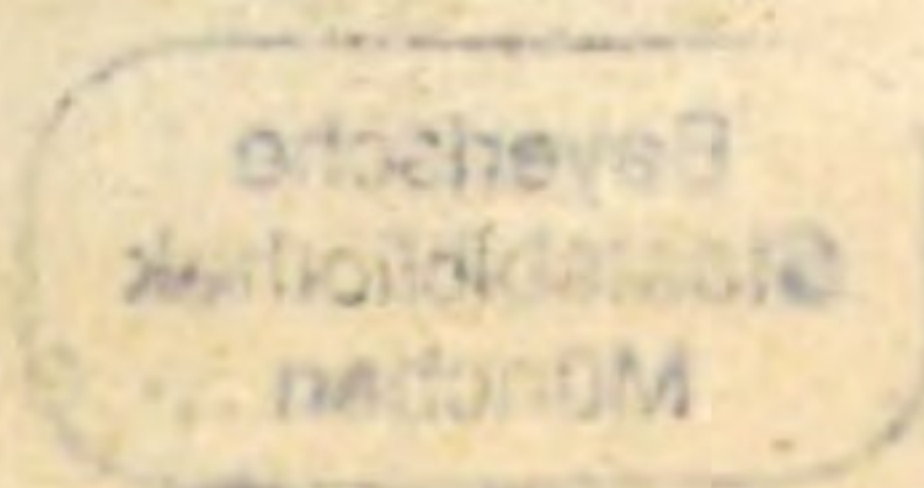
AND ALSO SOLD BY J. DONALDSON, A. GUTHRIE, W. LAING,

AND JO. FAIRBAIRN, EDINBURGH ; T. CADELL, J. DEB-

RETT, AND J. SEWEL, LONDON ; DUNLOP AND WIL-

SON, GLASGOW ; AND ANGUS AND SON, ABERDEEN.

M,DCC,XCVIII.



THE
STATISTICAL ACCOUNT

OF
SCOTLAND.

DRAWN UP FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS

OF THE
MAYORS

OF THE
DISTRICTS OF ARLISTERS

BY SIR JOHN STELLAIR SMITH

VOLUME TWENTY

"No. 21 of the Statistical Account of Scotland, 1845, contains the account of the County of Argyll."

EDINBURGH:

PRINTED AND SOLD BY WILLIAM GREENE;

AND ALSO SOLD BY J. DONALDSON, A. DUTHIE, W. LAING,

AND J. YARRIE, EDINBURGH; T. CALEDON, J. DUN-

NETT, AND J. BELL, LONDON; DUNLOP AND WIL-

SON, GLASGOW; AND ANGUS AND SON, ABERDEEN.

1845.

Bayerische
Staatsbibliothek
München

A D V E R T I S E M E N T.

IT is with infinite satisfaction, that the Author has brought this Volume to a conclusion, and presents the Public, with the remainder of the Statistical Accounts of the different Parishes in Scotland, *without a single one being omitted*. He thinks it proper, however, to add, that another Volume is now in the Press, the printing of which has already made considerable progress. That Volume will contain, not only such material additions to, or corrections of, the Parochial Reports, as have been transmitted since the original Accounts were printed, but also a very copious General Index, carefully compiled, and divided into three parts; the first, comprising all the Subjects treated of; the second, the Names of the Persons; and the third, the Names of the Places, Lakes, Rivers, Mountains, &c. mentioned in the Statistical Volumes.—The whole Work will therefore be comprehended in Twenty-one Volumes.

In regard to the proposed Analysis of the Statistical Account of Scotland, or the result of the Inquiry, the Author has begun that important undertaking, and will endeavour to complete it, as soon as his leisure from other avocations will admit.—It is a Work, however, that will require so much attention and labour, that he trusts the Public will excuse him, for not attempting to execute it in too hasty a manner.

JOHN SINCLAIR.

CHARLOTTE-SQUARE,
EDINBURGH,
25th October 1798. }

ADVERTISEMENT.

It is with infinite satisfaction, that the Author has brought this Volume to a conclusion, and presents the public with the remainder of the Statistical Accounts of the different Parishes in Scotland, under a single cover. He thinks it proper, however, to add, that another Volume is now in the press, the printing of which has already made considerable progress. This Volume will contain, not only such statistical relations, as are contained of the Statistical Reports, as have been transmitted to the original Accounts were printed, but also a very copious General Index, carefully compiled, and divided into three parts: the first, comprising all the subjects treated of in the second, the Names of the Persons, and the third, the Names of the Places, Lakes, Rivers, Mountains, &c. mentioned in the Statistical Volume. The whole Work will therefore be comprehended in Twenty-two Volumes.

In regard to the proposed Analysis of the Statistical Account of Scotland, or the result of the Inquiry, the Author has begun that important undertaking, and will endeavour to complete it as soon as his leisure from other avocations will admit. He is a Work, however, that will require so much attention and labour, that he trusts the public will excuse him, for not attempting to execute it in so happy a manner.

JOHN SINGLTON

Printed by James
Gordon, Edinburgh.

C O N T E N T S.

No.	Name of the Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1797.	Increase.	Decrease.	Page.
1	Livingstone,	598	420	—	178	I
2	Boleskine and A- bertarf, -	1961	1741	—	220	19
3	Kilmadock, -	2730	3209	479	—	40
4	Walls and Sandnefs,	1450	1723	273	—	97
5	Forteviot, -	1164	970	—	194	117
6	Orwell, -	1891	1705	—	186	126
7	Sorn, -	1494	2779	1285	—	138
8	Kirkowen, -	795	690	—	105	186
9	Dyke and Moy,	1826	1529	—	297	192
10	Collace,	499	473	—	26	235
11	Evie and Rendal,	1798	1564	—	234	247
12	St Andrew's and Deernefs, -	1650	1335	—	315	258
13	Fogo, -	566	450	—	116	270
14	Tingwall, -	1412	1786	374	—	277
15	Ardnamurchan,	5000	4542	—	458	286
16	Urquhart, -	1943	2355	412	—	297
17	Banff, -	3000	3510	510	—	319
18	Abercorn, -	1037	870	—	167	383
19	Kilmorack, -	2830	2318	—	512	401
20	Dunkeld and Dow- ally, -	1298	1773	475	—	410
21	Thurso, -	2963	3146	183	—	493
Total,		37,905	38,888	3991	3008	
			37,905	3008		
Increase,			983	983		

STATIS-

C O N T E N T S.

No.	Name of the Parish.	Population in 1752.	Population in 1797.	Decrease.	Page.
1	Livingstone,	298	450	152	1
2	Bolckine and A.	1961	1741	220	19
3	Kilnabock,	5730	3509	2221	40
4	Walls and Sandals,	1450	1743	293	97
5	Formoy,	1194	970	224	117
6	Oswell,	1891	1705	186	126
7	Don,	1494	2770	1276	138
8	Kirkcubbin,	795	690	105	136
9	Dyce and Moy,	1816	1750	66	139
10	Colless,	499	475	24	142
11	Evie and Rendal,	1798	1564	234	147
12	St. Andrew's and Dectons,	1650	1335	315	148
13	Fogo,	266	450	184	150
14	Tingwall,	1412	1786	374	157
15	Ardsburgh,	2000	4542	2542	158
16	Urquhart,	1942	2322	380	159
17	Barr,	3000	3210	210	160
18	Abertom,	1037	870	167	163
19	Kilmorack,	2330	2318	12	164
20	Dunkeld and Dow- ry,	1798	1773	25	165
21	Thurso,	2963	3146	183	166
Total,		37902	38888	986	
Increase,			986		

HISTORY
OF THE
ORIGIN AND PROGRESS
OF THE
STATISTICAL ACCOUNT
OF
SCOTLAND.

AN author, who printed a work, intitled, "Prospects and Observations on a Tour in England and Scotland *," soon after the commencement of the STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF SCOTLAND, and who, it would appear, had seen some specimens of that publication, states, in the following words, his opinion, of the impracticability of so great an undertaking, being completed by the exertions of one individual.

"THERE have not been wanting different persons, public-spirited indeed, but perhaps of too
VOL. XX. a " sanguine

* Published by Messrs Robinsons, London, in one vol. 4to, an. 1791.

“ sanguine dispositions, who, struck with the sub-
 “ servieney of parochial distinction, to the advance-
 “ ment of both civil and natural history, have ad-
 “ dressed letters to the different parishes in Scot-
 “ land, and particularly to the Clergy, inviting
 “ them to a correspondence, on whatever might
 “ appear most curious and interesting in their re-
 “ spective divisions. *These Gentlemen do not reflect,*
 “ *that there is no individual, however distinguished*
 “ *by genius, rank, or fortune, or even by a happy or*
 “ *rare union of all these advantages, who can possibly*
 “ *be considered, by a whole Nation, as a fit centre*
 “ *for such general co-operation*.*”

It is certain, that not only this ingenious travel-
 ler, but also many of the Author's friends, on
 whose judgment he could best rely, were in gene-
 ral of the same opinion, and adverse to his enga-
 ging in the attempt on so great a scale. It is pro-
 per, therefore, that the history of the accomplish-
 ment of such an undertaking, and of the means
 by which it was completed, in the midst of a va-
 riety of other important avocations, should be pre-
 served, as a memorial, of what may be effected by
 unceasing energy and perseverance.

At an early period of life, I felt a strong pre-
 dilection for literary pursuits, and, as far back as
 October 1769, when only about fifteen years and a
 half old, began to send to the newspapers, and

other

* See Newte's Travels, p. 427.

other periodical publications, various communications, specimens of which, merely as Boyish Compositions, I have thought it might not be improper to rescue from oblivion. (See Appendix, A). But, above all, I preferred engaging in inquiries connected with political subjects, and collected, many years ago, very extensive materials, for works on questions of that nature, which, probably, I shall never have leisure to execute. Fortunately, however, I found time sufficient, to sketch out the History of the Public Revenue of the British Empire *, (for the Work, as printed, is only a sketch), which, though it contains the essence of many hundred publications, was executed in a very short period of time. The first volume, I think, was both written and printed in the space of about six months, *anno* 1785, and the other, in about the same period of time, *anno* 1790. The materials, however, of both had been previously collected. I have ever considered it, indeed, as the best mode of composition, to collect the materials for any work, as leisure would permit, and when they were collected, to dedicate a certain space of time, to that subject exclusively, and not to suffer any other matter to break in upon the proposed investigation.

At the conclusion of the History of the Revenue, it was my intention to have laid before the Public, a General View of the Political Circumstances

* This work is in three parts. The two first were printed in 1785, and the third in 1790.

stances of the Country; but, after taking every possible pains to become master of the subject, all the information I could obtain, was so extremely defective, that it was necessary to give up the idea; which I did with a considerable degree of reluctance.

ON my arrival at Edinburgh, in May 1790, to attend the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, of which Assembly I was a Lay Member, and with the leaders of which, I lived on terms of intimacy and friendship, it fortunately occurred to me, that I might prevail upon that respectable body, to furnish such information, respecting the general state of Scotland, as might enable me to give a sufficient idea of the political situation of that part of the British empire. My original intention was, to have drawn up a General Statistical View of North Britain, without any particular reference to parochial districts; but I found such merit and ability, and so many useful facts and important observations, in the communications which were sent me, that I could not think of depriving the Clergy, of the credit they were entitled to derive, from such laborious exertions, and thence was induced, to give the Work to the Public, in the manner in which it has been printed. It is my intention, at the same time, as soon as leisure from other pursuits will admit of it, to draw up the result of the whole inquiry, in a publication to be entitled, “*Analysis of the Political State of Scotland,*” with

“with a View of the Principles of Statistical Philosophy,” a work which, I hope, it will be in my power to lay before the public at the commencement of the ensuing century.

THE most natural mode of obtaining information, and the one which I originally adopted, was that of printing and circulating Queries, as many individuals might be inclined to send answers to any questions put to them, who would not take the trouble of drawing up a regular Report. I accordingly addressed a Letter to the Clergy, and inclosed Queries in it, which will be found in Appendix B.

MANY people were at first surpris'd, at my using the new words, *Statistics* and *Statistical*, as it was supposed, that some term in our own language, might have express'd the same meaning. But, in the course of a very extensive tour, through the northern parts of Europe, which I happened to take in 1786, I found, that in Germany they were engaged in a species of political inquiry, to which they had given the name of *Statistics*; and though I apply a different idea to that word, for by *Statistical* is meant in Germany, an inquiry for the purpose of ascertaining the political strength of a country, or questions respecting *matters of state*; whereas, the idea I annex to the term, is an inquiry into the state of a country, *for the purpose of ascertaining the quantum of happiness enjoyed by its inhabitants, and the means of its future improvement*; yet, as

I

I thought that a new word, might attract more public attention, I resolved on adopting it, and I hope that it is now completely naturalised and incorporated with our language.

HAVING received a number of returns in consequence of the Queries circulated, and some of them being drawn up in the form of a regular Report, I resolved to try the effect of publishing a volume of parochial accounts; and having returned from London, (where I had gone to attend my duty in Parliament), to Edinburgh, in January 1791, I commenced the undertaking, by printing the reports of the four parishes with which the first volume of the Statistical Account commences, namely, those of Jedburgh, Holywood, Port-Patrick, and Hounam, and having thrown off 1000 *extra* copies of those four parishes, sent them, by way of a specimen, to every Clergyman in Scotland, accompanied with another Letter, to be found in Appendix C.

By dint of great exertions, the first volume of the Work was published on the 25th of May 1791, exactly 12 months from the commencement of the undertaking. It gave, on the whole, very general satisfaction. Some of the Clergy, indeed, were dissatisfied, at the freedom used with their communications, (it being thought necessary to condense them as much as possible); and others, unaware of the difficulty of printing correctly, particularly from manuscripts written by so many different hands, were displeased with a few typographical

phical errors. It so far surpassed, however, any thing of the kind that had ever been hitherto attempted, that every individual, who wished well to the improvement of the country, or the welfare of its inhabitants, became desirous of promoting it, and hence I had some reason to flatter myself, that the whole Work would be completed in a short period of time.

BEING so frequently out of Scotland, I have in general been obliged, to rely upon the assistance of others, for preparing the communications of the Clergy, and correcting the press. The second volume, however, I was enabled to undertake myself, during a Parliamentary recess; and I do not recollect, to have met with a greater mass of curious and interesting information, in any publication of that extent. It begins with a parish near the borders, that of Tortherwald, and ends with Mid and South Yell in Shetland, the parishes gradually proceeding northwards. Those who can peruse that volume, without pleasure and improvement, must have little real turn or disposition for such investigations.

It was natural to suppose, that the most zealous friends to the cause, would early come forward with their communications, and that some inducement must be held forth to those, who were inclined to be backward, to prevail upon them to make the necessary inquiries. From the beginning, I had proposed that the profits arising from the publication,

lication, should be given to the Society instituted for the benefit of the Sons of the Clergy. It accidentally also occurred to me, that it would be possible to procure a Royal Grant for the same benevolent purpose ; and having, with that view, applied to Mr Secretary DUNDAS, his Majesty, in consequence of his recommendation, was graciously pleased to grant L. 2000 to that Society ; I availed myself of that opportunity, to make a third application to the deficient Clergy, (see Appendix, D), which I flattered myself would have been very generally successful.

EXPERIENCE, however, soon proved, that altho' considerable progress might thus be made, yet that it was impossible to expect, without still greater exertions, the unanimous assistance of so numerous a body as the Clergy of Scotland. Many circumstances prevented unanimity on such an occasion. Some disliked the scheme from the beginning, or, having rashly given an opinion against it, before they had thoroughly understood its nature or object, were ashamed afterwards to retract. Some were prevented by old age and bodily infirmities, some owing to family distress, and some by the jealousy of their parishioners, who thought that the whole was a deep laid scheme, set on foot by Government, with a view to taxation ; whilst the tenants, in many country parishes, did not much relish the inquiries which were made into the produce of the soil, the value of their cattle, &c. apprehensive

prehenſive that their landlords, might avail themſelves too much of that information. In ſhort, from a combination of ſuch circumſtances, after writing many thouſand letters, and the exertions of above two years, I found, on the 1ſt of June 1792, that no leſs a number than 413 accounts were ſtill wanting.

EVERY meaſure, either deviſed by myſelf, or ſuggeſted by others, was carried into effect, in order to prevail upon the deficient Clergy to complete the Work. A recommendation from the General Aſſembly was one of the meaſures adopted; the diſtinguiſhed Hiſtorian of Scotland and America, (the late Dr Robertſon), was prevailed upon to write to all his contemporaries, requeſting their aſſiſtance; many other reſpectable members of the Church, as Sir Henry Welwood Moncrief, Dr Blair, (the celebrated author of the Sermons, and other valuable publications), Dr Kemp, Dr Hardie, &c. applied to their Clerical friends, to promote the Work within the bounds of their ſeveral preſbyteries. The Duke of Argyll, the Earl of Leven, (whoſe ſituation as Commiſſioner to the General Aſſembly gave him much weight with the Church), the Earl of Fife, and ſeveral other great Proprietors in Scotland, wrote to the different Miniſters, whom they had preſented to livings, or with whom they had any particular connection; and from time to time, I took every opportunity that occurred, of reminding the Clergy, by various letters, which will be ſeen in Appendix, E;

but I still found, not only that several individuals could not be prevailed upon to draw up their accounts, but indeed that some, from a procrastinating spirit, and unwillingness to engage in, or to complete, any laborious undertaking, could not be depended on, after they had promised to transmit them.

DETERMINED, however, to complete the Work, I then resolved to send *Statistical Missionaries* to different parts of the country, one to the Western Islands, another over the counties of Aberdeen and Banff, a third to the presbyteries of Dunkeld and Perth, a fourth to Dumfries-shire and Galloway, and a fifth to the Orkney Islands; and by that means, several accounts, to the amount of about 25, that would otherwise have been wanting, were procured.

WHEN the whole Work was nearly brought to a conclusion, and lists of the different parishes were made up, an unfortunate circumstance occurred, of the most discouraging nature. The accounts were sent by the Clergy to me, and many of them were received in London, and thence transmitted to Scotland, to be incorporated in the Work. Upon making up the list, in June 1796, no less than twelve accounts, which I thought had been received, were not to be found; and it became necessary, again to apply to the Clergy to make up the loss. I do not recollect any circumstance, in the whole course of the undertaking, that gave me so much uneasiness.

AT

AT last, on the 1st day of January 1798 *, or seven years, seven months, and seven days, from the commencement of the attempt, an account of every parish in Scotland, was either given in, or might be relied on, in the space of a few days. The reader will easily conceive the satisfaction which that circumstance occasioned; and as, undoubtedly, no instance is recorded in history, of such a number as above 900 persons, engaging in so laborious an undertaking, more especially at the request of a private individual, it may not be improper, briefly to state the circumstances to which it may be attributed.

IN the first place, I had made it a rule, from an early period of life, to behave with attention and civility to those with whom I happened to be in company; and many of the Clergy afterwards informed me, that nothing induced them more to comply with my request, than their recollection of little incidents of that nature. I mention this circumstance, as a proof of the advantage to be derived from such a stile of behaviour; for I had little reason to imagine, that a young clergyman, to whom I might accidentally shew any little mark of civility, could ever have had it in his power to make any return for it.

IN the second place, having an estate in the most northern part of the kingdom, where I occasionally resided, I had better access to information regarding the remoter districts, than falls to the lot of

* Only four accounts were wanting on that day.

of the generality of my countrymen, and thence indeed had an opportunity of cultivating a more extensive acquaintance, than is commonly in the power of any individual, and of increasing it when necessary.

IN the third place, I laid it down as a rule, pointedly to answer every letter I received from the Clergy, and to acknowledge the receipt of all their different communications, which, in some cases, were very numerous, even from a single district, the ministers occasionally sending their reports even in sheets.—I do not know any thing more essentially necessary for success in business, than regularity of correspondence. By delays in answering letters, I have at various times suffered much, and I attribute my success in this important undertaking, in a great measure, to the punctuality with which I carried on my Statistical correspondence. Fortunately, at that time, the privilege of franking, was, in regard to the number of letters, unlimited, and the late restrictions upon that right, are much to be regretted, as they disable persons, not in official situations, from carrying on such extensive inquiries. Had I been confined to the sending of only 70 letters *per* week free from postage, I should scarcely have undertaken, far less carried through, the Statistical Account of Scotland.

IN the last place, the success of this undertaking is to be attributed, to a spirit of perseverance, which no obstacle could resist, and without which,

which, no great enterprize can ever be accomplished ; a spirit, which was kept up, from time to time, by animating eulogiums, from various respectable quarters, both foreign and domestic, some of which, I have thought it proper to insert, in the Appendix to this paper. (See Appendix, F).

I BEG leave to add, that though the advantages to be derived from such a Work, both by this and by other countries, are many, yet in no respect is it of more essential consequence, than in proving the practicability, of combining the information and intelligence of great numbers of people, in one important literary undertaking. Who, before, could have imagined, that it would be possible to unite the labours of *above nine hundred* individuals in one Work. By following a similar plan, regarding other useful objects of inquiry, there is no art or science, that might not be brought, with considerable rapidity, to a greater height of improvement, than can ever otherwise be effected ; and thus the lot of the human species, may, in various respects, be speedily ameliorated.

I CANNOT conclude, without returning my warmest acknowledgments, to the many respectable characters, by whose assistance I have been enabled to complete this Work. By their exertions on this occasion, they have immortalized themselves, and the order to which they belong ; and the greatest compliment that in future can be paid to any body of men, will be, that they are
as

as learned, as able, and as public-spirited, as those members of the Church of Scotland, who assisted in drawing up the Statistical Accounts of the different parishes in North Britain, and enabled the person who engaged in so bold an undertaking, to accomplish a Work, unequalled, in regard to the success with which it has been attended *,—the number of persons therein employed,—the extent of useful information which it contains,—and the various important advantages to be derived from it.

JOHN SINCLAIR.

CHARLOTTE SQUARE, EDINBURGH, }
1st January 1798. }

* In Appendix, G. there is an account of several attempts of a similar nature, both in this, and in other countries, the success attending which, was no great inducement to engage in this Work; and in Appendix, H. a statement of the progress of the present undertaking.

APPEN-

APPENDIX, A.

Letters signed JULIUS CÆSAR, the first Literary attempts of the Author of the Statistical Account of Scotland.

THE following letters, written by SIR JOHN SINCLAIR, were printed in the Caledonian Mercury in October 1769. An anonymous author, under the name of *Mercator Caledonius*, had written letters in that paper, lamenting the necessity which the natives of the Highlands were under, of abandoning their native country, in consequence of the increase of rents, and of emigrating to America. On that occasion, SIR JOHN SINCLAIR was tempted to commence author, though then only about fifteen years and a half old. The letters were written merely by way of an exercise, and trial of skill, than with any other view. It is hoped, therefore, that the reader will make allowance for such a circumstance. No person happened to be acquainted with his having written them, and nothing could be more amusing for so young a man, than upon going into company, to hear his works talked of with approbation, inquiries made who the author could be, &c. &c.

Nº I.

To the Printer of the Caledonian Mercury.

S I R,

I OBSERVED at the end of your paper of the 2d current, that you had expunged some passages of a letter signed *Mercator Caledonius*, and indeed it would have been of no consequence if you had expunged the whole. Christian charity, however, forces me to conclude, that Mr Mercator will make a better figure behind his counter, tying up a pennyworth of sugar, or changing a sixpence to his best customer, than filling your paper with heavy complaints of no moment or importance. As for my share, Mr Printer, I have often travelled through every corner of the Highlands of Scotland;

land ; it is the place of my birth, and the country of my heart ; yet, with all my partiality and prejudice for it, I have seen too many of its inhabitants who were pictures of indolence and sloth. Contented to live in inactivity and idleness, without even the necessaries of life, they would rather starve in the midst of profusion, than apply themselves to any business, with industry and labour ; they would rather mount up, with the utmost difficulty, to the top of a bleak and barren mountain, from whence nothing can be seen but the clouds of Heaven, and the Albion snows, than strive to attain to independency and freedom, with the sweat of their brow, or the labour of their hands. They would rather cringe to their landlord and their laird, to obtain the crumbs that fall from his table, than attempt to get a decent and comfortable livelihood, by cultivating the lands entrusted to their care, or applying themselves to any trade, (which, though it would, perhaps, disgrace the blood, and the race from whence they sprang), yet it would, in time, make them richer even than the chief of their clan. What, then, can their masters do with such tenants, and with such dependents ? Can they see, without emotion, their lands lying desolate and uncultivated by the sloth of its inhabitants ? Can they see, without emotion, their friends and their neighbours wallowing in riches and plenty, and they themselves sunk in poverty and wretchedness ? What signifies the tracts of land they possess ? Of what avail is the number of the tenants on their estates, if they scarce receive as much for ten miles of good country, as elsewhere would not rent the tenth part of an acre ? But, must they still continue to go on in the same foolish and unaccountable jog-trot ? Will they still continue to ride through twice twenty miles, without seeing the smoke of a chimney, or hearing the crowing of a cock ? Or, will they not rather attempt, by heightening their rents, to excite the industry of their people, and fill their estates with the sober and the diligent ? These things, according to Mr Mercator's phrase, grow *clamant* for redress ; they have been often considered with the utmost attention by the landed property in the Highlands. I myself have an estate in that country, and, I am sure, if this scheme does not make it better, it cannot make it worse. I shall not detain you, Mr Printer, any longer at present, I hope that you will admit these few unconnected hints into your most entertaining paper ; and will only add, that Mr Mercator need not dread, in case the Highlanders do desert their so much beloved native soil, that they will seize the small pittance that he has scraped together, for they never think of attacking those who have nothing to lose ; the poor man may whistle in the night-time, though the sword of the robber is pointed at his breast.

I am yours, &c.

JULIUS CÆSAR.

EDINBURGH, }

5th Oct. 1769. }

MER-

MERCATOR CALEDONIUS being much dissatisfied with this attack upon his lucubrations, published a very angry reply; in consequence of which the Author wrote the following letter, which ended the controversy.

N^o II.

To the Publisher of the Caledonian Mercury.

S I R,

THOUGH I have considered, Mr Printer, with the utmost attention, the situation of some of our western Highlanders; though I have asked again and again the sentiments of my friends on this interesting subject, yet I still continue in the same opinion I at first adopted: and so far am I from thinking, that the departure of *a few factious and idle Highlanders* would prove detrimental to these united kingdoms, that I would wish a contribution was immediately begun; let them be shipped off at the public expence, whilst the whim continues, and let them be transported to a country, where they may find a nation perhaps as savage as themselves, and, if possible, equally destitute of the least appearance of religion and virtue. But I hope that the sober and the diligent will not think of following their example; let them be deterred from executing that scheme, by the dismal miscarriage of the first attempt; the news lately arrived in Scotland, that some of these people, who had left the fruitful Argyleshire coasts, to inhabit the American wilds, had not met with that reception they wished or expected. You might have heard, Mr Printer, that some of them died, during a long and tedious voyage; that some suffered the worst of deaths, by the want of subsistence; and that the rest were so overcome by the change of the air, and the inclemency of the weather, that few, if any, expected to see the return of another summer. I hope that this news will be of some advantage to my deluded countrymen; let them consider the danger of perishing in a vast and tempestuous ocean, without a friend or a neighbour to assist them in their distress: how they must go to a country where their language is unknown, and their misery will be disregarded; how they must leave a beloved wife and tender infants, to bewail their absence with unavailing tears, when left to the care of a treacherous friend, or a concealed enemy: and even supposing that they do safely arrive at these barren deserts; supposing that they can speak the dialect of the country, and that at first they are viewed with the tender eye of pity and compassion, yet how can they expect to be long supported by hardened avarice, or flagging charity? How can they then expect to receive assistance and alms from the savages of the desert, or obtain a settlement, even in that vast and boundless country, without the necessary aids of friends and money? and when reduced to the last extremity in a foreign country, they will then, perhaps, be worse than the

Indians

Indians themselves, devouring the friend of their bosom, or tearing the flesh off their bodies in the pangs of hunger and famine. Read this, my countrymen and friends, read it and tremble; reflect within yourselves, if this was your situation, if you could support it; and if you would wish to preserve yourselves, your relations, and friends, from infamy and disgrace, do not attempt to leave your *so much beloved native country*, which will soon grow *clamant* for your continuance in it; and believe him who always wished for your safety in his youth, and will always pray for it in his old age.

I am yours, &c.

JULIUS CÆSAR.

EDINBURGH, }
October 9. 1769.

A P P E N D I X, B.

First Circular Letter to the Clergy of the Church of Scotland.

S I R,

I TAKE the liberty of transmitting the inclosed Queries to you, in hopes that a plan, which has been fortunate enough to meet with the approbation of some of the most respectable and distinguished characters in these kingdoms, will be favoured with your assistance.

To procure information with regard to the real political situation of a country, is what wise Statesmen in every age have thought desirable, but which in these enlightened times is justly held of the most essential public importance*.

In

* The ancients frequently inculcated this idea: "Ad consilium de re publica dandum, caput est, nosse rempublicam." *Cicero de Oratore*, lib. 2. "In republica cognoscenda, multam, magnamque curam habui, uti quantum armis, viris, opulentia, ea posset; cognitum haberem." *Salust. ad Cæsar. de Republ. ordin. Epist. seu Orat. 2. cap. 1.* And M. de Hertberg, the Prime Minister of Prussia, very justly remarks, "Qu'on reconnoit de plus en plus, que la grande politique, ne consiste pas dans le mystère dont les gouvernemens se couvroient jadis, mais que ceux qui agissent à découvert avec publicité et franchise, gagnent beaucoup plus la confiance, des sujets, et des voisins." *Dissertation sur la Population des Etats en general, et sur celle des Etats Prussiens en particulier. An. 1785.*

In many parts of the Continent, more particularly in Germany, Statistical Inquiries, as they are called *, have been carried to a very great extent; but in no country, it is believed, can they be brought to such perfection as in Scotland, which boasts of an ecclesiastical establishment, whose members will yield to no description of men, for public zeal, as well as for private virtue, for intelligence, and for ability.

I flatter myself, that upon this occasion, they will not be backward in contributing their aid, to promote an attempt, which may prove of considerable service to the country at large, and cannot fail to add to the reputation and character, which the Church of Scotland has already so deservedly acquired for public utility.

I have the honour to be,

Sir, your very obedient,

And faithful humble servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

EDINBURGH, }
May 25. 1790. }

N. B. It is not expected, that all the inclosed Queries should be answered by any individual; nor is minute exactness looked for: but it is requested, that as many questions may be attended to, as circumstances will admit of.

In the event of a vacancy in the parish, or where the present incumbent is prevented, by sickness or otherwise, from sending an answer, it is intreated that some neighbouring clergyman would take that trouble upon himself.

It is submitted, whether it might not be proper to insert the Queries and Answers in any parochial register, that in after times the future state of the parish, may be compared with its situation at present.

Any answer to these Queries may be directed to Sir John Sinclair of Ulbster, Baronet, Member of Parliament, Edinburgh, who will thankfully acknowledge the receipt of any paper upon this subject, that may be addressed to him.

It may be proper to add, that if it is thought advisable to publish such an account of Scotland, as may be drawn up from the materials, to be thus collected, any profit that can be derived from the publication, is to be dedicated to an institution lately formed, for the Benefit of the Sons of the Clergy of the Church of Scotland, which seems to merit every possible encouragement.

Copy

* Or, *Inquiries respecting the Population, the Political Circumstances, the Productions of a Country, and other Matters of State.*

Copy of the *QUERIES* drawn up for the purpose of elucidating the Natural History and Political State of Scotland, which were inclosed in the preceding letter.

QUESTIONS respecting the GEOGRAPHY and NATURAL HISTORY of the
PARISH.

1. What is the ancient and modern name of the Parish?
2. What is the origin and etymology of the name?
3. In what county is it situated?
4. In what presbytery and synod?
5. What is the extent and form of the parish?
6. What its length and breadth?
7. By what parishes is it bounded?
8. What is the general appearance of the country? Is it flat or hilly, rocky or mountainous?
9. What is the nature of the soil? Is it fertile or barren, deep or shallow?
10. What is the nature of the air? Is it moist or dry, unhealthy or otherwise?
11. What are the most prevalent distempers? and to what circumstances are they to be attributed?
12. Are there any mineral springs? and in what diseases are they serviceable?
13. Are there any considerable lakes or rivers in the parish?
14. What species of fish do they produce? In what quantities? What prices do they fetch on the spot? And in what seasons are they in the greatest perfection?
15. Are the rivers navigable? or might they be rendered useful in navigation?
16. Are there any navigable canals in the parish?
17. What is the extent of sea-coast?
18. Is the shore flat, sandy, high, or rocky?
19. What sorts of fish are caught on the coast? In what quantity? At what prices sold? When most in season? How taken? And to what markets sent?
20. What other sea animals, plants, sponges, corals, shells, &c. are found on or near the coast?
21. Are there any remarkable sea weeds used for manuring land, or curious on any other account?
22. Is there any kelp? And what quantity, at an average, is annually made?
23. What are the courses of the tides on the shore or at sea? and are there any rocks, currents, &c. worthy of notice?
24. Are

24. Are there any light-houses, beacons, or land-marks? or could any be erected that would be of service?

25. What are the names of the principal creeks, bays, harbours, headlands, sands, or islands, near the coast?

26. Have there been any battles or sea fights near the coast? and when did any remarkable wrecks or accidents happen, which can give light to any historical fact?

27. Are there any remarkable mountains? and what are their heights?

28. Are the hills covered with heath, green, or rocky?

29. Are there any volcanic appearances in the parish?

30. Are there any figured stones, or any having the impression of plants or fishes upon them?

31. Are there any fossil marine bodies, such as shells, corals, &c. or any petrified part of animals? or any petrifying springs or waters?

32. Are there any marble, moor-stone, free-stone, slate, or other stones? How are they got at, and what use is made of them?

33. Are there any mines, particularly coal-mines? What are they? To whom do they belong? And what do they produce?

34. Is any part of the parish subject to inundations or land-floods? When did any remarkable event of that nature happen?

35. Hath there been any remarkable mischief done by thunder and lightning, water-spouts or whirlwinds?

36. Are there any remarkable echoes?

37. Have any remarkable phenomena been observed in the air?

38. Are there any remarkable caves or grottos, natural or artificial?

39. What quadrupeds and birds are there in the parish? What migratory birds? and at what times do they appear and disappear?

40. Is the parish remarkable for breeding any species of cattle, sheep, horses, hogs, or goats, of peculiar quality, size, or value?

II. QUESTIONS respecting the POPULATION of the PARISH?

41. What was the ancient state of the population of the parish, so far as it can be traced?

42. What is now the amount of its population?

43. What may be the number of males?

44. What of females;

45. How many reside in towns?

46. ————— villages?

47. ————— the country?

48. What is the annual average of births?

49. What is the annual average of deaths * ?
50. _____ marriages ?
51. _____ souls under 10 years of age ?
52. _____ from 10 to 20 ?
53. _____ 20 to 50 ?
54. _____ 50 to 70 ?
55. _____ 70 to 100 ?
56. Above 100 ?
57. Are there any instances of long lives well authenticated ?
58. What may be the number of farmers and their families ?
59. _____ manufacturers ?
60. _____ handycraftsmen ?
61. _____ apprentices ?
62. _____ seamen ?
63. _____ fishermen ?
64. _____ ferrymen ?
65. _____ miners ?
66. _____ household servants, male and female ?
67. _____ labouring servants, male and female ?
68. _____ students at colleges and universities ?
69. _____ merchants, citizens or tradesmen ?
70. _____ artists ?
71. _____ Jews ?
72. _____ negroes ?
73. _____ gipsies ?
74. _____ foreigners ?
75. _____ persons born in England, Ireland, or the British colonies ?

76. What

* It is of peculiar importance to have the questions 48 and 49 distinctly answered ; for it is generally understood, at least on the Continent, that the population of any district or country, may be known with sufficient accuracy, by multiplying the number of births by 26, or the number of deaths by 36. In Scotland, on the other hand, Mr Wilkie, minister of Cults, supposes, that the number either of births and burials, if they are equal, should be multiplied by 40 ; or, if there is any difference, the half of the whole, (both the births and the burials), should be multiplied by the expectation of an infant's life, adapted to the particular district, in order to ascertain its population. See Statistical Account, vol. II. p. 415. It appears, from Mr Wilkie's calculations, that the expectation of a life in Scotland, is much greater than in England, or on the Continent.

76. What may be the number of persons born in other districts or parishes in Scotland ?

77. What may be the number of the nobility and their families ?

78. _____ gentry ?

79. _____ clergy ?

80. _____ lawyers, and writers or attornies ?

81. What may be the number of physicians, surgeons, and apothecaries ?

82. _____ the established church ?

83. _____ seceders ?

84. _____ episcopalians ?

85. _____ Roman catholics ?

86. Is the population of the parish materially different from what it was 5, 10, or 25 years ago ? and to what causes is the alteration attributed ?

87. What is the proportion between the annual births and the whole population ?

88. What is the proportion between the annual marriages and the whole population ?

89. What is the proportion between the annual deaths and the whole population ?

90. What is the proportion between the batchelors and the married men, widowers included ?

91. How many children does each marriage at an average produce ?

92. What may be the causes of depopulation ?

93. Are there any destructive epidemical distempers ?

94. Have any died from want ?

95. Have any murders or suicides been committed ?

96. Have many emigrated from the parish ?

97. Have any been banished from it ?

98. Have any been obliged to leave the parish for want of employment ?

99. Are there any uninhabited houses ?

100. What may be the number of inhabited houses, and the number of persons at an average to each inhabited house ?

III. QUESTIONS respecting the PRODUCTIONS of the PARISH.

101. What kinds of vegetables, plants, and trees, does the parish produce ?

102. What kinds of animals ?

103. What at an average is supposed to be the number of cattle, sheep, horses, hogs, and goats, in the district ?

104. Is there any map of the parish ? and has the number of acres in it been ascertained ?

105. How

105. How many acres at an average may be employed in raising corn, roots, &c.?

106. What number of acres to each sort respectively, as wheat, barley, rye, oats, potatoes, turnip, cabbage, &c.?

107. Does the parish supply itself with provisions?

108. Does it in general export or import articles of provision?

109. How many acres are employed in raising hemp or flax?

110. How many in sown or artificial grasses?

111. How many in pasture?

112. When do they in general sow and reap their different crops?

113. What quantity of ground may lie waste or in common?

114. What in woods, forests, marshes, lakes, and rivers?

115. Is there any chalk, marl, fullers earth, potters earth, ochre, &c.?

116. Are there any bitumen, naptha, or other substances of that nature found in the soil?

IV. MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS.

117. Has the parish any peculiar advantages or disadvantages?

118. What language is principally spoken in it?

119. From what language do the names of places in the parish seem to be derived?

120. What are the most remarkable instances of such derivations?

121. What may the land rent of the parish be?

122. What the rent of houses, fishings, &c.?

123. What is the value of the living, including the glebe? and who is the patron?

124. Who is now minister of the parish?

125. How long has he been settled in it?

126. What are the names of his predecessors as far back as they can now be traced, and the time they respectively held that office?

127. Is the minister married, a widower, or single?

128. If with a family, how many sons, and how many daughters?

129. When were the church and the manse built or repaired?

130. What is the number of heritors, or possessors of landed property in the parish?

131. How many of them reside in it?

132. What is the number of the poor in the parish receiving alms?

133. What is the annual amount of the contributions for their relief, and the produce of alms, legacies, or of any other fund destined for that purpose?

134. What are the present or ancient prices of provisions, beef, veal, mutton, lamb, pork, pigs, geese, ducks, chickens, rabbits, butter, cheese, wheat, barley, oats, &c.?

135. What

135. What is generally a day's wages for labourers in husbandry, and other work? and what *per* day for carpenters, bricklayers, masons, tailors, &c.?

136. What is the fuel commonly made use of? Is it coal, wood, heath, peat, furze, or whins? What are the prices paid on the spot; and whence is the fuel procured?

137. What, at an average, may be the expence of a common labourer, when married? and is the wages he receives sufficient to enable him to bring up a family?

138. What are the usual wages of male and female servants in the different branches of husbandry?

139. What the wages of domestic servants?

140. How many ploughs are there in the parish? and of what kinds?

141. How many carts and waggon?

142. How many carriages; and of what sorts?

143. Are there any villages in the parish? and how are they situated?

144. Are there any crosses or obelisks erected in the parish?

145. Are there any remains or ruins of monasteries or religious houses?

146. Are there any Roman, Saxon, Danish, or Pictish castles, camps, altars, roads, forts, or other remains of antiquity? and what traditions or historical accounts are there of them?

147. Have there been any medals, coins, arms, or other pieces of antiquity dug up in the parish? When were they found? And in whose custody are they now?

148. Are there any barrows, or tumuli? Have any been opened? And what has been found therein?

149. Have there been any remarkable battles fought in the parish? On what spot? At what time? By whom? And what traditions are there respecting the same?

150. Has the parish either given birth or burial to any man eminent for learning, or distinguished for any other valuable qualification?

151. Are the people of the country remarkable for strength, size, complexion, or any other personal or mental qualities?

152. What is the general size of the people?

153. What is the greatest height which any individual in the parish has attained, properly authenticated?

154. Are the people disposed to industry? What manufactures are carried on in the parish? And what number of hands are employed therein?

155. Are the people fond of a sea-faring life? What is the number of boats and of larger vessels belonging to the parish? And what number of seamen have entered into the navy during any preceding war?

156. Are the people fond of a military life? Do many enlist in the army? And principally in what corps?

157. Are the people economical, or expensive and luxurious for their circumstances? Is property, particularly in land, often changing? And at what prices is it in general sold?

158. Are the people disposed to humane and generous actions; to protect and relieve the shipwrecked, &c.? and are there any events which have happened in the parish, which do honour to human nature?

159. Do the people, on the whole, enjoy, in a reasonable degree, the comforts and advantages of society? and are they contented with their situation and circumstances?

160. Are there any means by which their condition could be ameliorated?

A D D E N D A.

1. What is the state of the roads and bridges in the parish? How were they originally made? How are they kept in repair? Is the statute labour exacted in kind, or commuted? Are there any turnpikes? and what is the general opinion of the advantages of turnpike roads?

2. What is in general the rent of the best arable and the best pasture or meadow grounds, *per acre*? What the rent of inferior?

3. What in general is the size and the average rent of the farms in the parish? And is the number of farms increasing or diminishing?

4. Is the parish in general inclosed, or uninclosed? And are the people convinced of the advantages of inclosures?

5. What was the situation of the parish *anno* 1782 and 1783? Please state any curious or important circumstances connected with that era, or with any other season of scarcity.

6. Are there any curious or important facts tending to prove any great alteration in the manners, customs, dress, stile of living, &c. of the inhabitants of the parish, now, and 20 or 50 years ago?

N. B. If you reside in a town or city, please give an account of the history and antiquities of the place; of its buildings, age, walls, sieges, charters, privileges, immunities, gates, streets, markets, fairs; the number of churches, wards, guilds, companies, fraternities, clubs, &c.: How the town is governed: if it is represented in parliament, to whom does the right of election belong, and what the number of electors? together with a comparison between its ancient and modern state, in regard to population, commerce, shipping, fisheries, manufactures, more particularly at the following periods, about the time of the Union, since the year 1745, and at present.

It

It may be proper to add, that many important facts and observations may occur to those to whom this paper is addressed, not hinted at in the queries, which it would be particularly obliging in any gentleman to add to any answer which he may take the trouble of drawing up.

EDINBURGH, }
May 25. 1790. }

APPENDIX, C.

*Second printed Circular Letter to the Clergy, with a Specimen of Four
Parishes.*

SIR,

IT is with infinite pleasure I have the honour of acquainting you, that by the zeal and patriotism of the clergy of Scotland, I have already in my possession materials for drawing up a Statistical Account of a considerable part of the whole kingdom; and that in the course of the ensuing spring, (which is the season when the ministers generally take a clerical survey of their respective parishes,) I have reason to expect returns from above a half of Scotland. Of the nature and importance of the reports which have been received, you will be able to judge from the specimen I inclose. It is part of a volume, now in the press, which will be ready for publication by the next meeting of the General Assembly.

You will easily perceive the many important advantages which the public must necessarily derive, were reports equally accurate with those inclosed, sent from every other district in the kingdom, though some years were even employed in bringing this great political survey to a conclusion. But I am anxious that the Clergy of Scotland should not only do it well, but quickly; so that the state of the whole country should be known, if possible, at nearly the same period of time. I therefore hope, Sir, that, for the honour of our national church, you will make every exertion in your power, to send me as full, and as accurate an account, as possible of your parish, and of any neighbouring district, that by any accidental circumstance, may require your assistance. As a Scotchman, and as a friend to the Kirk of Scotland, I should feel a very peculiar pride in being able to assert, that, on the 25th of May 1790, I began to circulate my statistical queries among the Clergy; and that before a twelvemonth had elapsed, I had received more full and satisfactory information respecting the state of this country, than had ever been collected concerning any other kingdom.

You

You will perceive, that the inclosed accounts are systematically arranged, from the answers which were sent me. It is, however, unnecessary for the Clergy to give themselves that trouble. If the queries which have been already sent, are answered with minuteness and accuracy, a complete account can easily be made from those answers; nevertheless, if any clergyman has sufficient leisure to draw up a complete and systematical description of his parish, it cannot be the less acceptable.

Some districts, such as the parish of Hounam, furnish little room for statistical investigation. In that case, the state of population, and facts connected with the political circumstances of the country, are all that is necessary. Full accounts are desirable; but, at the same time, no minister ought to hesitate about sending a short one, when there are not means of supplying more important materials.

In the queries formerly sent, some particulars were omitted, of which I should be glad to be informed, even from those gentlemen who have already favoured me with their answers: as,

1. What is the state of the schools in the parish; the salary and perquisites of the schoolmaster; and the number of his scholars?
2. What is the number of alehouses, inns, &c.; and what effect have they on the morals of the people?
3. What is the number of new houses or cottages which have been built within these ten years past; and how many old ones have been pulled down, or have become uninhabitable?
4. What has been the effect of employing cottagers in agriculture, or of working by hired servants in their stead? and,
5. What has been the number of prisoners in any jail in the district, in the course of the year 1790; and for what causes were they imprisoned?

Tables of births, marriages, and deaths, kept in any particular parish, would be very desirable. Nor can the information respecting all points connected with the population of the country, be too accurate and minute.

On the whole, I flatter myself, by your assistance, and that of your brethren, that it will be in my power to bring a work to perfection, which will do more credit to the Clergy of the Church of Scotland, as a learned, able, and useful body, than perhaps has ever fallen to the lot of any other description of men.

I have the honour to be, with great regard and esteem, Sir, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

EDINBURGH,

Jan. 25. 1791.

N. B.

N. B. It is intreated, that at the next meeting of your Presbytery, some plan may be formed, for completing the survey within its bounds, as expeditiously as may be consistent with accurate returns to the different queries; and that the Moderator, or some member of the meeting, will have the goodness to inform me of the steps which are taken for that purpose. The letters may either be directed to Edinburgh or London.

Any of the Clergy who have not received a copy of this, or of the former letter and queries, may be assured, that it has only arisen from mistake, and from those errors which cannot be avoided in so extensive a correspondence.

It is also requested, that, in the course of any correspondence with your brethren, you will not fail to recommend as early an attention as possible to this inquiry.

In regard to any question, about the propriety of answering which a difficulty should arise, no reply is required.

APPENDIX, D.

Third printed Circular Letter to the Clergy, announcing the Royal Donation of L. 2000.

S I R,

I HAVE at length the satisfaction to inform you, that the Second Volume of the *STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF SCOTLAND* will be published on the 25th current; and that the Third, the Fourth, and the Fifth Volumes of that Work, (which will comprise a considerable proportion of the kingdom), are in the press, and will be printed without delay. You may easily suppose, how desirable it must be, on many accounts, to have an undertaking of a nature so laborious and important, brought to a conclusion. The public at large are anxious to have it completed, on account of the many beneficial consequences, which must necessarily result from it: The sooner it can be finished, the greater will be the credit, which will accrue to those, by whose zeal and exertions, this great Inquiry has been carried forward. And, when the Work is finished, I have the pleasure of adding, that it will then be in my power, to present to the very useful Society, lately constituted, for the benefit of the Sons of the Clergy, a sum which will enable that Institution to begin its laudable operations*.

—These

* The Society's funds, on 15th June 1791, amounted to L. 1060; but it did not propose to distribute any part of its income until the capital reached

—These are considerations, which must have sufficient weight with every Clergyman, who has either any regard for his own order, or any attachment for the country at large, to make every exertion in transmitting, with all convenient speed, the information that is required. As yet, indeed, there has been no cause for complaint. Returns have already been sent from about one half of the Parishes in Scotland; and, if the remainder were received, previous to the Meeting of the ensuing General Assembly, the publication of the *STATISTICAL SURVEY OF SCOTLAND* might be completed in the course of the year 1792, or, at farthest, within three years from its commencement, in May 1790; and consequently, with a degree of rapidity and success, which none but the most sanguine could have looked for.

The

reached L. 2000; which, it was supposed, the sale of the *STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF SCOTLAND* would complete.

Regretting that any time should be lost, in commencing so useful a distribution, I took the liberty of suggesting a petition to the Crown for some pecuniary aid. It was with some difficulty, that I prevailed upon the Society to make the application. At first they were resolved to decline it, as appears from a letter I received from Dr Hardy, dated the 9th May 1792, in which that respectable Clergyman states: “I have delayed answering your letter, inclosing
“ a draught of a petition for aid to the Sons of the Clergy, till I should have
“ conversed with several of the members of the Society, who have taken
“ an active part in its affairs. We all consider the Society as very much in-
“ debted to you, both upon the ground of the statistical inquiries, and of
“ your readiness on this occasion, to exert yourself for some immediate pe-
“ cuniary grant, to bring its capital into a situation which may authorise
“ a commencement of distribution. All of the gentlemen with whom I
“ have conversed on this point, express, however, a reluctance to take so
“ pointed a step, as a petition for pecuniary aid in this case, as there is
“ no specific fund in view on which a probable claim might be laid, but
“ only the privy purse to which our petition could refer. We are afraid
“ that a repulse might expose the Society to some blame in the view of
“ the public, and our existence depends on our being able to preserve
“ the full and unmixed approbation of the country.”

But upon my pressing it again, it was at last agreed to, and fortunately succeeded; and now the Society is placed in such a situation, that it cannot fail to prove materially serviceable to the sons of a most valuable body of men, and I trust that ere long its funds will enable it to extend its attention to the Daughters of the Clergy also.

The information, which will be accumulated in this great Work, will, it is believed, be found infinitely superior, to that contained in any other publication, of a political or statistical nature. Indeed, what else could be expected, from the united exertions of above a THOUSAND Individuals of intelligence and ability, who, in a greater or lesser degree, will contribute to its formation? I am induced, from that circumstance, to suggest, that it might not be improper for the Ministers, the Elders, and the principal Heads of Families, to join together, in purchasing, for each Parish, a copy of the different Volumes, as they come out. To any mind capable of receiving useful information, no literary performance can furnish so much entertainment. Nor is there any, that will yield more important hints—for the improvement of agriculture—for the extension of commercial industry—for regulating the conduct of individuals,—or for promoting the prosperity of the State. The peculiar form of this Work, also, admirably adapts it for parochial circulation; and were this idea carried into full effect, there is every reason to believe, that it would materially contribute, to further the most essential interests of the community.—This is a point, therefore, which may deserve to be brought under consideration, at any ensuing meeting, of the Presbytery, or the Synod, to which you belong.

I have now only to regret the repeated trouble you have received, in the course of this correspondence; but I trust, that you will impute it to the real cause,—an ardent wish to promote, so far as I am able, the happiness of my native country; and, what is of much more consequence, than the exertions of any single individual, to furnish a numerous and respectable body of my fellow citizens, with an opportunity of proving, to the conviction of the world, their patriotism and abilities. I have the honour to be, with great regard and esteem, Sir, your very obedient humble servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

EDINBURGH,

Dec. 5. 1791.

N. B. *Packets of the legal weight, (or under two ounces), may be addressed to Sir John Sinclair, Bart. M. P. Edinburgh.*

Either answers to the original Queries, or an arranged Parochial Account, may be sent, as is most convenient and agreeable.

It may be remarked, in general, that the great object of the Inquiry is, to know the present *state* of the country, and to ascertain what means are the most likely to promote the real interests of its inhabitants, and, that deep researches, into subjects of antiquity, are far from being considered as equally essential, though certainly not to be overlooked.

The

The names of the authors will not be inserted, if that omission is desired; and no information is wished for, that can give uneasiness to any individual.

It may not be improper for every Clergyman, who receives this letter, to acknowledge the receipt of it, suggesting any hints, at the same time, that may occur to him respecting the Statistical Inquiry; and, particularly, as to the best mode of supplying any deficiency in the accounts, either by an application to any of the residing Heritors, to some neighbouring Clergyman, or to any other individual, who has spirit and capacity, to do justice to such an undertaking.

Any important facts or observations transmitted by the Clergy, which may not be included in the Statistical Account of Scotland, as now published, (to prevent the Work swelling to too great a size), are to be carefully written out, in several interleaved copies of the work, to be deposited in the principal public libraries both of England and Scotland, for the purpose of preservation, and as a foundation for county or provincial histories, in which more minute information may be expected.

It might be the means of shortening such accounts considerably, if the information, respecting certain articles, were condensed as much as possible, in the shape of a Table, according to the annexed specimen.

STATISTICAL TABLE of the PARISH of

LENGTH in English miles,	-	Number of persons above 100,	-
Breadth,	-	_____ Families,	-
Population, 40 or 50 years ago,	-	_____ Houses inhabited,	-
_____, anno 1791,	-	_____ Ditto uninhabited,	-
Increase, (or decrease),	-	_____ New houses built within	-
Average of Births, for any No.	-	_____ these 10 years,	-
_____ of Deaths, } of years	-	_____ Old ditto pulled down,	-
_____ of Marriages, } preceding	-	_____ Married persons,	-
ages, 1791,	-	_____ Children at an average,	-
Inhabitants in towns,	-	_____ from each marriage,	-
_____ in villages,	-	_____ Twins, &c. born in the	-
_____ in the country,	-	_____ parish for the last 10	-
Number of Males,	-	_____ years,	-
_____ Females,	-	_____ Bachelors, or unmarried	-
_____ persons under 10 years of	-	_____ men above 50,	-
_____ age,	-	_____ Unmarried women above	-
_____ under 20,	-	_____ 45,	-
_____ under 50,	-	_____ Widowers,	-
_____ under 70,	-	_____ Widows,	-
_____ under 80,	-	_____ Members of the Esta-	-
_____ under 90,	-	_____ blished Church,	-
_____ under 100,	-	_____ Seceders,	-
			Number

Number of Roman Catholics,
 — Episcopals, —
 — Males born out of the
 parish, —
 — Females ditto, —
 — Persons born abroad,
 — in England, —
 — in Ireland, —
 — in the Co-
 lonies, —
 — Proprietors residing,
 — non-residing,
 — Clergymen, —
 — Merchants, —
 — Physicians, —
 — Surgeons, —
 — Writers, or Attornies, —
 — Schoolmasters, —
 — Farmers above L. 50 *per*
annum, —
 — Ditto under L. 50, —
 — Shopkeepers, —
 — Innkeepers, —
 — Smiths, —
 — Masons, —
 — Carpenters, —
 — Weavers, —
 — Shoemakers, —
 — Tailors, —
 — Butchers, —
 — Millers, —
 — Bakers, —
 — Gardeners, —
 — Male domestic servants,
 — Female ditto, —

Number of Male farm servants,
 — Female ditto, —
 (Add any other occupa-
 tion, by which a person
 gains a livelihood in the
 parish.)
 — Poor, —
 — Capital of their funds, —
 — Annual income, —
 — Young persons taught
 English, writing, &c.
 — Latin, —
 — Greek, —
 — At the University, —
 — Ships, —
 — Small vessels, —
 — Boats, —
 — Seamen, —
 — Fishermen, —
 — Persons serving in the
 Navy during the last
 war, —
 — Ditto in the Army, —
 — Average of persons, who have set-
 tled in the parish, du-
 ring the last 5 or 10
 years, —
 — Ditto who have emigra-
 ted from it, —
 — Number of acres, in Scotch or Eng-
 lish measure, —
 — Wheel Carriages, —
 — Carts, —
 — Ploughs, —
 L. s. d.

Valued rent, in Scotch money,

Real rent, anno 17 — } in Sterling, {

anno 1791, }

Rents spent in the parish,

Value of articles exported,

— ditto imported,

VALUE OF STOCK.

L. s. d.

L. s. d.

	valued at	each.	Total,
Number of Draught horses,	—	—	—
— Saddle and carriage horses,	—	—	—
— Best cattle,	—	—	—
— Inferior ditto,	—	—	—
— Best sheep,	—	—	—
— Inferior ditto,	—	—	—
— Goats, swine, &c.	—	—	—

Total value of stock, L.

ANNUAL PRODUCE.

[illegible]

For other particulars, reference must be had either to the Queries, formerly printed, see Appendix, B. or to the Analysis, inserted in the First Volume of the Statistical Account of Scotland.—Though many facts may thus be shortly stated in the form of a table, yet they may often require a number of explanatory observations, which may be sent at the same time.

APPENDIX, E.

Additional Notes and Letters, sent from time to time, to the deficient Clergy.

THERE was certainly reason to hope, after having made so considerable a progress, as that of receiving 528 returns, in the space of about two years, that little difficulty would have been found, in collecting the remaining accounts, amounting only to 413, in even a shorter period of time. The contrary, however, turned out to be the case. It became necessary therefore, to reiterate the applications from time to time, to present the subject to the deficient Clergy in every possible light, sometimes serious, and sometimes jocular; and to press them, by every means that could be suggested, to transmit their respective reports. With that view, the following letters were successively written to them. The first one was printed; the rest, to satisfy them how much the number of deficient parishes was diminished, were written in manuscript; and one, sent with my own hand, to demonstrate the particular anxiety I felt to receive a speedy answer. If any one should imagine, that the Statistical Account of Scotland, could have been more rapidly completed than it was, I trust that he will exculpate the Author of that undertaking from any blame, after perusing the following series of notes and letters.

Series of Notes and Letters written to the Clergy of the Church of Scotland, during a Period of Five Years, from the 1st December 1792, to the 1st of December 1797.

No I. Printed Circular Note, dated the 28th December 1792.

SIR JOHN SINCLAIR presents his compliments. He hopes that his former communications, respecting the Statistical Account of Scotland, have been received. It is earnestly requested, that such of the Clergy as have not yet transmitted their respective accounts, will lose no time in sending them, the Public at large being extremely anxious, to have this Work brought to a conclusion, as quickly as possible, as the advantages of which it may be productive, cannot be thoroughly known or felt, until it is completed. Eight volumes, which will contain in all about 500 parishes, will be published in the course of January 1793, and the remainder of the Work, if the necessary materials come in, might be finished soon after the meeting of the ensuing General Assembly, when it is hoped that not a single account will be wanting.

The Clergy will hear, with satisfaction, that not only in England, but in every part of the Continent, the highest eulogiums have been bestowed, on the zeal, talents, and industry they have displayed, in carrying on this great undertaking, which, in the opinion of every unprejudiced person, will be of as much consequence to other countries as even to Scotland.

LONDON,
December 28. 1792. }

N. B.

N. B. Nothing could be more disagreeable to Sir John Sinclair, than to be under the necessity of applying to any other person, than the Minister of the parish, for the Statistical Account of it; particularly, as it might tend to lessen the high reputation which the Clergy have already so deservedly acquired by their Statistical exertions. He hopes, therefore, that your assistance will not be wanting, a moment longer than is absolutely necessary; and he should be glad to be favoured with your account, directed to him at London, in packets not exceeding two ounces in weight, as speedily as possible. It is not in his power, during the sitting of Parliament, to attend to the printing of the different returns, but he wishes to have the satisfaction of reading them over before they are sent to the press, and many respectable literary characters in the church, (in particular those, who have taken an active part in establishing the Society for the Benefit of the Sons of the Clergy), have undertaken the trouble of revising the press at Edinburgh, during his absence.

He has the pleasure of adding, that there is the prospect of a fund being soon established, for the Daughters as well as the Sons of the Clergy; and though the Clergy engaged in this important Work, without any interested motives, it cannot be an unpleasing circumstance, that their labours are likely to meet with such solid marks of public approbation, and will probably be productive, not only of personal credit to each individual, but of beneficial consequences to the order in general.

It need scarcely be added, that the merit which they have already acquired by their Statistical exertions, must very materially contribute to the success of the application now in agitation, for the augmentation of the stipends of the Clergy. It is indeed an unfortunate circumstance, that the Statistical Account of Scotland was not completed previous to such an application. However, the greater number of accounts that are received and printed before that question comes on, the better chance there is for success; and it is to be hoped, that at least ten volumes, containing from six to seven hundred parishes, will be published before the month of April, when that business will, in all probability, come under discussion.

SIR JOHN SINCLAIR begs to hear from every Minister, who has not yet written him, when his account may be expected. He will have the honour of attending the ensuing General Assembly, when he hopes some plan will be formed, for having, in each parish, a copy of the Work. In the concluding volume, every necessary correction which the Clergy will take the trouble of pointing out, shall be attended to, and any additional information will be inserted, that is judged in any respects of importance.

No II. The first General Circular Letter, written in M. S. to the deficient Clergy, July 1793.

S I R,

I HAVE the pleasure to inform you, that the eighth and ninth volumes of the Statistical Account of Scotland, are just published; that the tenth is in considerable forwardness, and that the remaining volumes, are ordered to be begun.

The deficient parishes are now so much reduced in number, that I can at last address every Clergyman, who has not as yet favoured me with an account of his parish, by a letter in M. S. instead of a printed application. I am extremely anxious, on every account that can possibly have any influence on the mind of an Author or of a Citizen, to have this great and laborious undertaking over; and I am persuaded, that you would not wish to be considered as disinclined to contribute your aid to a Work, which is so strongly recommended, by the inclosed *unanimous* vote, of the venerable General Assembly. If, however, you are prevented by sickness, or otherwise, from sending the account yourself, I will trouble you to point out any other channel for procuring it, as speedily as possible, as it would be a disgrace to the Country, to have a Work, in which the national character is now so much concerned, too tedious in being brought to a conclusion, or to any respect defective. The establishment of a Board of Agriculture, and Internal Improvement, (which would never have taken place had it not been for this inquiry), is a sufficient proof, of the many important consequences, of which it may be productive.——Expecting the favour of an answer in course, that I may take the necessary measures accordingly, in case an application to any other person should be requisite. I remain, with esteem, Sir, your humble and obedient servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

N. B. The answer to this letter, or any Statistical information, in packets under two ounces, from this date, till the 1st of August, may be addressed to me at Whitehall, London; and, from that time, to the 1st of September, (when at farthest all the necessary materials, I have no doubt, will be collected), may be transmitted to Edinburgh. The whole Work will be published about Christmas next, which, though not quite so early as could have been wished for, yet, on the whole, will do no discredit to the parties interested in this important Publication.

The

The following is a Copy of the Unanimous Vote of the General Assembly, in favour of the Statistical Account of Scotland.

“Edinburgh, 27th May 1793.

“**W**HICH day, in the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland,
“upon a motion made and unanimously agreed to, the Moderator,
“from the chair, recommended to such Ministers as have not yet furnished
“Sir John Sinclair, with Statistical Accounts of their respective parishes, to
“contribute, with all the expedition in their power, to complete a Work
“of such apparent public utility.”

No III. Circular Letter, dated the 4th of October 1793.

S I R,

HIS Majesty having been graciously pleased, to place me at the head of the Board of Agriculture, constituted for the purpose of promoting the internal improvement of the country, (a situation which, I find, will be attended with great labour and fatigue), I am therefore extremely desirous, of bringing the Statistical Account of Scotland, as quickly as possible, to a conclusion; and I flatter myself, that it can easily be now completed before Christmas. Your exertions for that purpose, I am persuaded, will not be wanting; and I will trouble you to inform me, in course of post, when your return may be expected, as, without such information, the printing of the remaining volumes cannot well be arranged. I remain, with much esteem, Sir, your very obedient humble servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

EDINBURGH, }

Oct. 4. 1793. }

No IV. Circular Note, dated the 3d of November 1793.

SIR JOHN SINCLAIR presents his compliments, with the inclosed arrangement of the Agricultural Surveys, now going forward, which are to be completed against Christmas next, although they extend all over the kingdom. He is perfectly astonished at not having heard from you before this time; and he should consider it disgraceful to the Church of Scotland, and

and every individual connected with it, if the Agricultural Survey, begun in September 1793, was completed before the Statistical, which commenced in May 1790.

At any rate, he depends on hearing from you in course; and he hopes that your letter, will either be accompanied with your account, or that you will have the goodness to point out the proper person to apply to for information, as no time can now be lost. If the parish does not furnish great materials, any general information, as to the state of the population, agriculture, church, stipend, poor, school, boats, fishermen, &c. will be sufficient, and your name will be prefixed or not, as may be most agreeable.

EDINBURGH, }
3d Nov. 1793. }

No V. Circular Letter, written by SIR JOHN SINCLAIR, 25th August 1794.

S I R,

[HAVE at last the pleasure of finding, that the remaining deficient parishes are so few in number, that I can now address the Clergy, *without making use of a borrowed hand*. The last volumes are in the press, and I am in great hopes that it will be in my power to take the charge of them myself. I beg, therefore, that you would lose no time in sending me the Account of your parish, as M. S. is much wanted to keep the press a-going. I cannot think of leaving Scotland, without having this great undertaking, if possible, completed; and indeed I told the King, who takes a warm interest in a Work, which would do credit to the reign of any Sovereign, that I flattered myself, I should be able to present the last volume to his Majesty when I returned to England. I remain, with great regard, your very faithful, humble servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

EDINBURGH, }
25th Aug. 1794. }

N. B. If the account is not quite ready, I must trouble you to inform me, *in course*, when it may be expected, that I may arrange the accounts in the different volumes accordingly.

No VI.

No VI. Circular Note, 1st November 1794.

SIR JOHN SINCLAIR presents his best compliments. He sets out in a few days for London; but hopes, before he goes, to have the pleasure of receiving the few Statistical Accounts which are still deficient. The remaining volumes, which complete the Work, are to be left under the charge of Sir Henry Moncrieff, Dr Hardie, and Mr Walker of the Canon-gate; and Sir John Sinclair will send the account of your parish, to be edited by any of those gentlemen you may prefer. It is very satisfactory to think, that so great an undertaking is at last brought so near its conclusion.

EDINBURGH,

1st Nov. 1794.

N. B. *Large parties* of the Rothsay and Caithness Fencibles are to be *quartered* upon all the Clergy, who will not have sent their Statistical Accounts, on or before the term of Martinmas next; so that the Ministers have it in their choice, either to write to the Colonel, or to treat his soldiers.

No VII. Circular Note, 12th January 1795.

SIR JOHN SINCLAIR presents his compliments. He expected, before this time, to have had the pleasure of receiving the Statistical Account of your parish. He begs it may be sent *as quickly as possible*, as any delay will be attended *with great inconvenience*, interrupting the whole progress of the Work. He wishes to have the report transmitted to himself in the first place, as he always chooses to peruse the Statistical Accounts previous to their publication.

WHITEHALL,

12th Jan. 1795.

No VIII. Circular Note, dated 3d April 1795.

SIR JOHN SINCLAIR's best compliments. He sets out to-morrow for Scotland, to attend the inspection of his Second Battalion of Fencibles; but is obliged to return before the end of April. He is particularly anxious

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ous, when he returns to London, to be able to inform the King, that a Work, of which his Majesty has expressed such particular approbation, has been completed. He therefore hopes, that it is now in your power to send the Statistical Account of your parish, addressed to him at Edinburgh. So few remain unprinted, that if all the deficient Accounts are transmitted in course, or within a week from your receiving this, the whole Work may be completed before the 25th of May 1795, or within five years from the commencement of the inquiry. Sir John depends upon every possible exertion on the part of his friends in the Church, to prevent another year from commencing, previous to the conclusion of the Work.

WHITEMALL,

3d April 1795.

No IX. Circular Note, dated 3d August 1795.

SIR JOHN SINCLAIR being anxious to complete the Statistical History of Scotland, begs the favour of Mr _____ to send him the Account of the parish of _____ as soon as possible.

Only a few parishes are now wanting, to accomplish that great national Work; and the last volumes are going to the press immediately, so that any delay would be attended with very great inconvenience.

He will trouble Mr _____ to write him *in course*, when the Account may be expected, that measures may be taken accordingly. The weight of packets being now reduced to one ounce, he requests that circumstance may be attended to, in sending the Account, by putting it in separate parcels.

He has the pleasure of adding, that there are not above a dozen or two of parishes, to which it will be necessary to send *Statistical Missionaries*, the Clergy, in every other quarter, undertaking to draw up the Accounts themselves, without such assistance.

EDINBURGH,

3d Aug. 1769.

No X. Circular Letter, dated the 3d of September 1795.

S I R,

I HAVE returned from the camp, at Aberdeen, to complete the Statistical Account of Scotland. It will be impossible for me, consistently either with my own character, or the credit of Scotland in general, and of its

VOL. XX.

f

Clergy

Clergy in particular, to return to England, leaving that Work in an unfinished state; and as the press is actually stopped for want of copy, I beg that you would have the goodness to send me, *in course*, the Statistical Account of your parish, which, I am persuaded, must be ready before this time. I remain, with esteem, Sir, your faithful and obedient servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

EDINBURGH,

3d Sep. 1795.

N. B. I will trouble you to acknowledge the receipt of this letter, in course, even if it were not in your power to send the Account for a fortnight or three weeks to come. It is so essential to have the Work done without any further delay, that I shall be under the disagreeable necessity, of sending a Statistical Missionary, to every parish, from which I cannot procure a return in the course of this month.

No XI. Circular Letter, sent in January 1796.

S I R,

HOWEVER much occupied with other business, yet my anxiety continues unabated, for having the Statistical Account of Scotland completed, without delay; and I hope that the Account of your parish, is in such a state of forwardness, that you can transmit it to me, in the course, either of this, or the ensuing month of February. It is of real importance to have this Work brought to a conclusion, as it hampers all my other undertakings. I remain, with esteem, Sir, your faithful and obedient servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

WHITEHALL,

January 1796.

No XII. Circular Letter to the deficient Clergy, 23d January 1796.

S I R,

AT the commencement of a new year, it is natural for a person, anxious to fulfil the duties of the station in which he is placed, to revolve in his mind, the mistakes, the errors, and the omissions of the former.

Under

Under the head of *omissions*, I am sorry to be under the necessity of ranking, my not having hitherto received the Statistical Account of your parish; which, on many accounts, I have been impatiently expecting for some time. I have the pleasure of adding, however, that the deficient Accounts are now so much reduced in number, (amounting only to about 20), that I look for the greater part, and indeed, I trust, the whole of these, in the course of *this or the ensuing month*, which will enable me to have, not only the Accounts themselves, but also the general result and analysis of the whole, printed *before* the meeting of the ensuing General Assembly. I am persuaded, that you will see the necessity I am under, of urging you again upon this subject, as it would be in the highest degree disgraceful, to suffer another year to commence, without having this Work completed, (which would be the case were it unfinished in May next), or to leave even a single blank in so great an undertaking, which I consider to be an eternal monument of the talents, public-spirit, and industry of my countrymen, during the present era. I remain, with esteem, Sir, your very faithful and obedient servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

WHITEHALL, }

23d Jan. 1796. }

No XIII. Circular Letter to the deficient Clergy, to whose Parishes Statistical Missionaries had been sent, 25th January 1796.

S I R,

I N a letter I have lately received from J. P. Andrews, Esq; who proposes to continue Doctor Henry's History, applying for some information as to the state of Scotland, at the period respecting which he is now writing; he adds, on the subject of the Statistical Account of Scotland, "A book which I have perused with equal *pleasure* and *astonishment*, I may almost say, *envy*, since the southern part of the island ought to blush, at never having produced a similar Work." I am persuaded, that it is impossible for you, not to wish to have some share, in so handsome, and so just a compliment, to the Clergy of North Britain, and to partake in an undertaking, which must be an eternal monument of the industry, talents, and public-spirit, of your countrymen, during the present era; and therefore, though I have already obtained materials for drawing up the Statistical Account of your parish, yet if you will undertake to transmit to me an Account of it yourself, in the course of the month of February next, I certainly will give it the preference. It is impossible for me to give a stronger testimony of

of my respect for the Church of Scotland, and of every individual connected with it. I remain, with esteem, Sir, your faithful and obedient servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

WHITEHALL, }
25th Jan. 1796. }

No XIV. Circular Letter, dated 1st December 1796.

S I R,

A CIRCUMSTANCE has just occurred, which must give a considerable degree of uneasiness, to every person interested in the prosperity of that excellent institution, the Society for the Benefit of the Sons of the Clergy. It is this : A plan, I understand, is in contemplation, for publishing an Abstract of the Statistical Accounts, with a view of intercepting a considerable share of the emolument to be expected from that publication. In order to defeat so invidious a project, I propose to draw up the result of the whole Inquiry myself, in a separate Work, to accompany the last volume of the Statistical Publication ; but, for that purpose, it is absolutely necessary, that I should immediately have all the deficient parishes in my possession ; of which, I have the pleasure to inform you, there are only 14 now remaining, each of which I am in daily expectation of receiving. You will, I am persuaded, see the necessity of sending me the Account of your parish in course ; for until it arrives, no progress can be made in drawing up the intended Abstract. I hope that this measure will defeat the malicious intention of those people, and will be the means of securing a considerable sum, for a very Benevolent Institution, whose success we must all feel a pleasure in promoting.

Expecting to hear from you in course, for not an instant should now be lost, I remain, with esteem, your faithful and obedient servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

EDINBURGH, }
1st Dec. 1796. }

The following Note to the above Letter, was sent to some of the Clergy, whose Accounts had unfortunately fallen by.

N. B. I am sorry to give you the trouble of drawing up another copy of your Account ; but after the most diligent search, I have not been able to find the one you were so obliging as to send me. From my changing so of-

ten my place of residence, and the numerous hands I have been obliged to employ, some incidents of that sort were unavoidable.

No XV. Circular Letter, sent in April 1797.

S I R,

I AM very much disappointed, at not having hitherto received the Statistical Account of your parish. There are very few now deficient, and you cannot imagine the bad effect which the want of those must have, in the opinion of many who are perpetually inquiring, whether the Statistical Account of Scotland is, or is not, completed? It is unnecessary for me, I am persuaded, to urge you more upon the subject. You may easily judge of my impatience and anxiety about it, when I can think about any literary matter at so busy a time in Parliament as this. I remain, with esteem, your faithful and obedient servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

LONDON, }
April 1797. }

N. B. I received a Statistical Account the other day, which cost nine shillings, in consequence of the Minister forgetting that the privilege of Parliament does not extend beyond one ounce. I thought it right to mention this circumstance, *as you will probably be in a hurry in sending off your Account, after the receipt of this letter*; for I am persuaded, you would not wish to be recorded as the very last, who contributed to so useful an undertaking.

No XVI. Note, written with *Red Ink*, to the Clergymen who had not given in their Statistical Accounts, 11th July 1797.

SIR JOHN SINCLAIR presents his compliments to

He sets out for Scotland next week, and will be much disappointed indeed, if he has not the pleasure of finding the Statistical Account of ready for him; as, on his arrival, he must bring the Work to an immediate conclusion. There are now only six deficient parishes; and from the *Draconian colour of his ink*, any Statistical delinquent may see, what the rear rank has to look for. *Sat sapienti.*

WHITEHALL, }
11th July 1797. }

No XVII.

In addition to these general Circular Letters, the following were sent, at different times, to several of the Clergy.

No XVII. Letter written to some of the most active Members in the different Presbyteries, 21st August 1790.

S I R,

I HOPE that you have received a circular letter, I had the honour of writing to the Clergy of the Church of Scotland, inclosing some Statistical Queries. I need not attempt to explain to you the importance of such investigations, and the many public advantages which may be derived from them. But as they may stand some chance of being neglected, unless some of the active members in the different Presbyteries, take a charge of them, correspond with their brethren upon the subject, and recommend them, at the different meetings of the Church, to their attention, I take the liberty of requesting that favour at your hands, which will greatly oblige, Sir, your very obedient, humble servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

EDINBURGH, }
21st Aug. 1790. }

N. B. I beg to add, that however desirable it might be, to receive answers to every query, yet, it cannot be expected, that the Clergy should universally take that trouble; though the more information that is sent, the better, and the more acceptable.

No XVIII. Circular Letter to the Clergy, who had not acknowledged the Receipt of any preceding Communication, 2d April 1793.

S I R,

I HAVE infinite pleasure in acquainting you, that the Statistical returns from the Clergy are now coming in so rapidly, that I have every reason to hope, there will be hardly a deficient parish against the meeting of the ensuing General Assembly. I need scarcely remark, that the sooner such a Work can be brought to a conclusion, the more creditable for all concerned, and the better for the country; for, till it is completed, those plans for the improvement of Scotland, which will be the result of this inquiry, cannot be set on foot. I hope therefore, that you will make every exertion in your power, to send me the return from your parish, either before, or during, the sitting of the Assembly; and that if from indisposition or otherwise, you are prevented from executing this Work yourself, that you will

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be so obliging, as to request some Clergyman in the neighbourhood, or any person in your parish who can undertake such a Work, to execute it against that time. I trust, that no man could engage in any labour, that could yield him more satisfaction, or could prove more useful, either to the community in which he lives, or to society in general. It is a pleasing circumstance to me, to have been the means of rescuing so many important facts, and useful observations, from the oblivion which might otherwise have been their lot. I have the honour to be, with great regard, Sir, your very obedient, humble servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

WHITEHALL, }

2d April 1793. }

N. B. There are now only about 360 deficient parishes; and as I receive them at the rate of about 20 weekly, and expect about a hundred from the members who attend the Assembly, I flatter myself, that there will be hardly a deficient parish on the 25th May 1793, or within three years from the commencement of the inquiry.

No XIX. Note transmitted to a Number of the deficient Clergy, from Inverness, in May 1793.

Flapper the last.

SIR JOHN SINCLAIR's best compliments. He is thus far in his way north, to complete his corps of Fencibles; but he still hopes, that it will be in his power to attend the conclusion of the General Assembly, though, unfortunately, it meets uncommonly early this year.

As the Statistical Inquiry commenced during the Assembly 1790, and is now so much advanced, he is persuaded, that every member of the Church of Scotland will make every possible exertion, rather than suffer another Assembly to pass over, with a list of deficiencies, however small. He hopes therefore, that you will have the goodness, either to bring with you the Statistical Account to the Assembly, or will send it by some friend, or will transmit it in packets, addressed to Sir John Sinclair, at Edinburgh.—Dr Hardy will take particular care of any Accounts that may be delivered to him, till Sir John returns to Edinburgh.

INVERNESS, }

2d May 1793. }

No XX.

No XX. Copy of a Letter sent from London, by Sir Henry Welwood Moncrieff, and by Dr Hardy, to the deficient Clergy, urging them to send their Accounts, 6th April 1793.

Reverend Sir,

SIR JOHN SINCLAIR has requested me, to urge you to send him the Statistical Account of your parish, as soon as possible. It is of real importance, that he should be able to complete the volumes in the course of this year, which can only be prevented, by his not receiving the Accounts he still wants, from you and a few others among our brethren. Allow me to solicit your attention to the subject, and to request, that, at all events, you will endeavour to have the Account of your parish transmitted to Sir John, by the time of the ensuing General Assembly. I have the pleasure of adding, that the Work is in high reputation here, and does much credit to all the parties concerned in it. I am, reverend Sir, your faithful and obedient servant.

LONDON,

6th April 1793.

N. B. Please communicate the substance of this letter to any of the Clergy in your neighbourhood, who have not as yet transmitted their Statistical returns.

N. B. Fifty-seven copies of these letters were sent, partly subscribed by Sir Henry Welwood Moncrieff, and partly by Dr Hardie, who were then in London on some ecclesiastical business.

No XXI. Copy of the Letter written by Dr Kemp, to 19 of the deficient Clergy, in the Highlands of Scotland, 25th November 1793.

Dear Sir,

I AM sorry to find, among a list of deficient Clergy of the Statistical Accounts of parishes, your name mentioned, in a list sent to me by Sir John Sinclair. He is most anxious, to have that interesting and important Work, brought to a conclusion as soon as possible, and hopes it may be accomplished about Christmas next, when he also expects the Agricultural Survey of the whole kingdom may be completed. This Survey commenced only in September last; the Statistical in May 1790; it will have singular aspect

to

to the public, that the former should be accomplished before the latter; and I should be extremely sorry to see your name mentioned among those to whom the delay is ascribed. Let me request of you, and I take the liberty to do it with much earnestness, that you will be so good as send up the Account of your parish, with as much expedition as possible, addressed to Sir John Sinclair of Ulbster, Baronet, M. P. Edinburgh. In doing so, you will confer a favour upon the public, consult your own reputation, and, if I may be permitted to add, after such weighty considerations, very much oblige, Dear Sir, your affectionate humble servant,

JOHN KEMP.

EDINBURGH, }
Nov. 21. 1793. }

No XXII. Printed Note, circulated by the Duke of Argyll, the Earl of Fife, the Reverend Principal Robertson, &c. amongst the Clergy, urging them to transmit their Statistical Accounts.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL presents his compliments to
Hopes that the letter and the queries, addressed to the Clergy of the Church of Scotland, by Sir John Sinclair, have been received. As such Statistical Inquiries are of great public importance, and may prove, in various respects, of essential service to the country, it is requested that every possible attention may be paid to them. It is not necessary that all the queries should be answered; only such as are the most material, and on the points with which you are the best acquainted. At the same time, the more information that can be given regarding *the population, and the political circumstances* of the country, the more desirable. The questions regarding the natural history, and the antiquities of the parish, are not so essential, and are only intended for such of the Clergy as may have dedicated their attention to such inquiries. It is also requested, that you would recommend this investigation, when any opportunity offers, to the Clergy in your neighbourhood, and to your friends in the Church.

N. B. Several of these notes were transmitted by the Duke of Argyll, the Earl of Fife, the Reverend Principal Robertson, &c. to the Clergy of their acquaintance.

No XXIII. Circular Letter to the Principal and Professors of the Universities of Edinburgh, St Andrews, and Aberdeen, dated 3d November 1794.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE the honour of sending herewith, a copy of the very intelligent and satisfactory Statistical Account, transmitted to me, of the University of Glasgow; and it is my earnest wish, to be able to print, by way of Appendix to the last volume of the Statistical Account of Scotland, similar Accounts of all our Scotch Universities. It must be attended with many good consequences, and will throw great light upon the important subject of education in general, to have, not only short histories of these Universities, and a view of their method of proceeding, in carrying on the education of youth; but also observations on the rules and practices, which have been found, by experience, most beneficial for that essential purpose. I am persuaded, that I may safely rely upon your exertions, for procuring me such an Account of a seminary, respecting which, from the celebrity it has obtained, the public will naturally be anxious to have authentic information. The only particular, in addition to those mentioned in the Glasgow Account, which I should be glad to have, is a state of the number of students who have attended the University since the commencement of the present century; distinguishing, 1st, Each year; 2d, The country whence they came, as Scotland, England, Ireland, America, or foreign countries; and, 3d, The number who have attended the different classes respectively. This is to be added to the Glasgow Account. I have the honour to be, with great regard and esteem, Gentlemen, your very obedient, and faithful humble servant,

JOHN SINCLAIR.

EDINBURGH,

Nov. 3. 1794.

N. B. It would be extremely desirable, to be favoured with your Account as soon as it can be drawn up, as the last volumes of the Statistical Account of Scotland are already in the press.

BESIDES these, and the preceding printed letters, many other applications were occasionally made to the Clergy, particularly when they attended the General Assembly, which is annually held in the month of May, and

to which representatives are sent from all parts of Scotland; nor were any means left untried, that were likely to bring it to a speedy conclusion, as soon as the possibility of completing the Work was ascertained. It is proper, at the same time, to observe, that many of the Clergy, who were thus so dilatory, were not indisposed to the cause, or unwilling to oblige me, and far less, incapable of drawing up Accounts of their respective parishes; but they put it off from year to year, in expectation of additional information, or thinking *they would still be in time enough for the last volume*, little considering, that the delays of only 50, out of about 900 individuals, actually put off the accomplishment of this Work, for the space of above three years.

A P P E N D I X, F.

Extracts of various Letters, approving of the STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF SCOTLAND, and urging a Perseverance in that Undertaking.

AS it was my intention, in writing the History of the Origin and Progress of the Statistical Account of Scotland, and the Appendix annexed thereto, to lay before the reader, the various circumstances which tended to bring that important Work to a conclusion, I am thence induced, to add the following Extracts of Letters from several respectable quarters, whose approbation, undoubtedly, materially contributed to induce me to persevere in the attempt, when otherwise my zeal might have flagged, from the delays and difficulties which it was necessary to encounter. It is to be considered, that this great undertaking, was carried on by a single individual, at his own risk and expence, and that nothing could have supported him, in going through so great a labour, but the fullest conviction of the great importance of the measure, and the circumstance, of its having met with the approbation of many respectable individuals, both at home and abroad. Some of the letters I received on the subject, particularly from the present Emperor of Russia, from Count Bernstorff, Prime Minister at the Court of Denmark, and others, having been accidentally left in London, cannot be inserted in this place; but the reader will easily perceive, that the Author must have been a good deal animated in his pursuit, by those which follow.

In printing the following series, it was on the whole thought preferable, to preserve their order, in point of time, rather than any other mode of arrangement.

No I. *Extract of a Letter from the Reverend Dr Robert Henry, the Historian, dated the 19th July 1790.*

I HAD the honour to receive your printed letter, with the inclosed paper, a few days ago. A perfect knowledge of the population, and other circumstances of our country, may be of great utility: *Greater perhaps than can be at present foreseen.* You are much to be commended, Sir, for your efforts to obtain that knowledge, and should be assisted by every Scotchman, who hath it in his power. I am sorry, that my retired situation, and very precarious state of health, make it impossible for me to be of so much use to you as I wish.—Besides, I am engaged in finishing the sixth volume of my History of Great Britain, a work of which you may, perhaps, have heard.

No II. *Extract of a Letter from George Dempster, Esq; dated 14th February 1791.*

THE reason of my troubling you at present, is, to return you my thanks for the specimen of the Statistical observations. This is a most valuable and useful work. It is a real Dooms-day Book, and promises to be more read and quoted than any book printed since Dooms-day Book. The older it grows, the more valuable it will prove. The object of this letter is, to entreat you to go on with it. Your industry is fully adequate to the task. It will also place the intelligence and good sense of our Clergy, in a very advantageous point of view. When the general approbation of the public follows this of mine, which it certainly will do, I pray you to extend your views to England and Ireland, and give us all the three kingdoms. The sale will defray the expence, and found an academy at Thurso.

No III. *Extract of a Letter from Sir David Dalrymple, (Lord Hailes), on receiving the specimen of the four first Parishes of the Statistical Account, dated 18th February 1791.*

I AM much obliged to you for your present. Your State of Scotland promises to be a very valuable Work, under the hands of so ardent an inquirer as you are. There is much to be learnt, even from the specimen.

No IV.

No IV. *Extract of a Letter from the Reverend Dr Blair, dated 15th April 1791.*

[AM very happy at there being such a general consent through the country, in seconding your patriotic views, of obtaining a satisfactory Statistical Account of Scotland. The Clergy seem to have exerted themselves more on this occasion than I had expected from them.

No V. *Extract of a Letter from George Dempster, Esq; dated 31st July 1791.*

[DESPAIR, with you, of getting the Ministry, to bestow either pains or money on your Statistical Account; for which reason, I think it wise to forbear to apply to any of them; and I hope you will persevere indefatigably, till you perfect a Work yourself, by which your name will be as certainly handed down to posterity, as William the Conqueror, and with much more credit. I envy you the idea of this Work, and still more its execution, and the use to which you destine the produce and profits of it. All is well conceived.

No VI. *Extract of a Letter from Andrew Stuart, Esq; dated 8th August 1791.*

[THANK you for the copies you sent me, of the papers now circulating among the Clergy of the Church of Scotland, for the purpose of obtaining just information, on matters connected with the political circumstances of the country. By the queries sent, their attention must necessarily be led to the proper objects of attention, and the answers of the Clergy will, most probably, afford a valuable collection of useful materials to work upon.

No VII. *Extract of a Letter from the Marquis del Campo, Ambassador from the King of Spain, dated 22d May 1792.*

[HAVE read, with great pleasure indeed, the Prospectus you have been so good as to send me, and I admire the manner in which the general inquiry, regarding the political state, population, industry, &c. of a kingdom is treated. I shall certainly make the properest use in my power of the other books,

books, for M. Campomanes, and other persons in Spain of the same description, and shall direct one for Count d'Aranda, recommending your wishes to him very earnestly.

No VIII. *Extract Translation of a Letter from the Count de Stadien, the Imperial Minister at the British Court, dated 25th May 1792.*

I BEG to return my best acknowledgments for the Prospectus which you have had the goodness to send me. Works of such general concern cannot fail to be favourably received, by those who are attached to the useful sciences. I shall not neglect to communicate them to several persons in Germany, who have applied themselves to those studies, and who, I am persuaded, will be much flattered in an opportunity of assisting you.

No IX. *Extract of a Letter from Mr Speaker Addington, dated 5th June 1792.*

I THANK you for the Prospectus you have sent me. The exertions of the Clergy of Scotland, in collecting and furnishing materials for such a Work, are highly to their credit, and must be the best encouragement to yourself, to persevere in your important and public spirited undertaking, to which I wish all possible success.

No X. *Extract Translation of a Letter from the Comte de Redern, the Prussian Minister at the Court of London, dated 14th June 1792.*

THE interesting details contained in that Work, (the Statistical Account of Scotland), cannot fail to make the public impatient for the conclusion of so great an undertaking. The plan embraces all those important objects, on which depends the prosperity of political society, and the researches founded thereon, seem to be equally extensive and laborious.

No XI. *Extract of a Letter from the Le Chevalier de Pinto, Minister to the Queen of Portugal, dated Lisbon, 3d July 1792.*

I OWE you many thanks for so valuable a mark of your remembrance, and more especially for your specimen of the Statistical Account of Scotland. I shall not fail to present the same to our Academy of Sciences, and will

will employ the greatest zeal, in endeavouring to procure for you the most satisfactory answers.

No XII. *Extract Translation of a Letter from Professor Zimmerman of Brunswick, dated 17th July 1792.*

[T is with peculiar pleasure that I received your obliging letter, and the works which accompanied it. I shall not delay a moment to insert an ample extract in the last number of my Geographical and Statistical Journal, which I have published for above two years. These sciences will gain much by your enterprise; and I feel the greatest anxiety, to see a Work, of such extent and utility, brought to a conclusion.

No XIII. *Extract of a Letter from Professor Treschow, of the University of Copenhagen, dated 8th August 1792.*

[Am much obliged to you for your Prospectus of the Statistical Account of Scotland; for which the Society and I return you our thanks. It is worthy of being observed, that the Account of Edinburgh and its manners, may be applied to Copenhagen; as there are, in many points, a striking likeness between them. Many pamphlets, Statistical and political, are inserted in our periodical works, some of them certainly worth your attention; but there are a great many articles that would not be interesting to you.

No XIV. *Extract Translation of a Letter from the Comte de Hertsborg, formerly minister to Frederick the Great, dated Berlin, 19th August 1792.*

[RETURN you many thanks for your analysis of the Statistical Account of Scotland; and wish I could converse with you on a number of objects, which are equally interesting to both our countries. I entirely approve of your very excellent idea, that of investigating the interior state of every district, by reports from the Ministers of each parish; and I am of your opinion, that, if provided with good models, no class of men could be more proper for so important an undertaking, than the parochial Clergy, who have usually the requisite knowledge and capacity, as well as the necessary leisure for that purpose. I earnestly wish, that I could imitate here, in my dear country, your very patriotic example.

No XV. *Extract Translation of a Letter from Monsieur Pleschéef, Author of a Geographical View of the Russian Empire, dated St Peterburgh, 25th September 1792.*

IF it should ever be in my power, to draw up a complete Statistical Account of Russia, on a plan more extensive, and more philosophic, than the work I have already executed, nothing can be more serviceable, than the valuable specimen which you have had the goodness to communicate to me, which may justly be considered as a sure foundation, and a classic and inestimable model, to be followed by those who may choose to occupy themselves in such valuable researches.

No XVI. *Extract of a Letter from Dr Guthrie, dated St Peterburgh, 26th September 1792.*

YOUR Statistical Work is, in my opinion, the most perfect which has ever yet appeared, and will probably serve as a model to other countries, although few possess the same set of respectable Pastors, to collect materials, living with their flock in habits of friendship and intimacy, the natural result of the sensible *regime* of the Scotch Church.

No XVII. *Extract of a Letter from Professor Thorkelin, dated Copenhagen, 24th November 1792.*

YOUR Analysis of the political state of Scotland, is not only admired here, but followed. It has given rise to new ideas, in particular, to a new society, in Norway, who have united themselves in order to make the present state of that long forgotten kingdom publicly known. Such exertions, though particularly advantageous to Great Britain, will also be of immense benefit to others who derive information from them. The Statistical Account of Scotland, translated into German, is announced, as preparing for the press at Leipzig.

No XVIII. *Extract of a printed Letter to the Clergy of Cornwall, respecting the establishment of a County Library, dated 23d December 1792.*

WE may flatter ourselves, that such an institution will excite the emulation and attention of our brethren the Clergy of Cornwall, to useful and interesting subjects, and particularly to what relates to the natural history,

History, antiquities, and biography of the county. In this way, owing to the exertions of the Clergy, animated and solicited to the pursuit by a Scottish Baronet, a curious and judicious Account is now giving, not of a single county, but of a whole sister kingdom,

No XIX. *Extract of a Letter from the Reverend Dr Blinshall, Minister of Dundee, dated 17th January 1793.*

I AM very happy, but not surpris'd, at the universal approbation which your Statistical Plan meets with, and I hope that the best success will attend your labours. My delaying so long to make any return to the various and much esteemed letters I received from you, was in consequence of my Colleague having readily agreed to draw up the answers to your queries.

No XX. *Extract of a Letter from his Excellency John Adams, now President of the United States of America, dated Philadelphia, 2d March 1793.*

I RECEIVED yours, with your plans for a natural history of sheep, and the Statistical Survey of Scotland. You could not have made a wiser choice. The natural history of that animal, so useful to man, must be extremely important, as well as extremely curious; and a detail of particulars, relative to your native country, must be interesting to all, but especially to the inhabitants of it. We, in this country, enjoy a delicious tranquillity at present, and if your European fermentations should not disturb us, shall continue to be happy.

No XXI. *Extract Translation of a Letter from the Comte de Hertfberg, dated Berlin, 8th March 1793.*

I HAVE to return you my best thanks for your interesting Work, the Statistical Account of the Parishes in Scotland. I find the plan particularly well formed, and if I were again at the head of the Prussian Cabinet, would carry it into execution here.

No XXII. *Extract of a Letter from Mr Kenrick of Bewdley, dated*
13th March 1793.

I CANNOT dissemble the pleasure I feel, in having an opportunity of offering you my mite of praise, for planning and calling forth the Statistical History of Scotland, which abounds with such a well digested fund of useful information, and exhibits to the world at large, so just a picture of a body of Clergy, who do the highest honour to their profession and to their country.

No XXIII. *Extract of a Letter from General Washington, dated* 15th
March 1793.

I CANNOT but express myself highly pleased with the undertaking in which you are engaged, (that of drawing up the Statistical Account of Scotland), and give my best wishes for its success. I am full persuaded, that when enlightened men, will take the trouble to examine so minutely into the state of society, as your inquiries seem to go, it must result in greatly ameliorating the condition of the people, promoting the interests of civil society, and the happiness of mankind at large. These are objects truly worthy the attention of a great mind, and every friend to the human race, must readily lend his aid towards their accomplishment.

No XXIV. *Extract of a Letter from Lord Auckland, dated* 15th July
1793.

I CONSIDER your Statistical Reports, as exhibiting a course of inquiry, of great importance to mankind, and I admire the courage and right principles, which enable you to go forwards, as if the crisis which has lately menaced the overthrow of all civil institutions, were completely and favourably ended.

No XXV. *Extract of a Letter from John Pinkerton, Esq; dated the*
23d February 1794.

I N looking over the Survey of Scotland, accomplished by your exertions, it occurred to me, that I could furnish an article worthy to appear in an Appendix to one of the volumes of the Statistical Account. I need not inform

form you, that in the third volume of Pryn's Records, there is a large, but indigested list, of all those in Scotland, who paid homage to Edward I. in 1291, and 1296, forming a kind of Doms-day Book of the country at that period. Four years ago, I, with some labour, reduced the numerous names and designations into alphabetical order, and the list being now adapted to general use, and containing the names and designations of the chief Landholders, Citizens, and Clergy, at the time, it may be regarded as of no small importance to our ancient Statistics, topography, and genealogy. If your opinion coincides, I shall with pleasure present it to you for the purpose, and correct the press.

No XXVI. *Extract of a Letter from Dr Gillies the Historian, dated the 2d of June 1794.*

NOT only the *Analyse de l'Etat Statistique d'Ecosse*, but also the larger Work, in English, I have perused with the greatest satisfaction and delight.

There are dark oblivious ages in the history of the world, during which the human mind remained buried in torpid inactivity. There are other periods, when the vivid powers of man awaken from their lethargy, and, as if refreshed, after a long and undisturbed repose, exert themselves with redoubled energy. The times in which we live, belong to the latter description; but that they do so, is owing to the generous and well directed exertions of enlightened and patriotic individuals.

Inventas aut qui vitam excoluere per artes,

Quique sui memores alios fecere merendo.

No XXVII. *Extract of a Letter from J. P. Andrews, Esq; the Author of the Continuation of Dr Henry's History, dated 31st December 1795.*

IF any one can aid my researches, it must be the Author of the Statistical Account of Scotland, a book which I have perused with equal pleasure and astonishment, I may almost say, envy, since the southern part of the island ought to blush, at having never produced a similar work.

No XXVIII.

No XXVIII. *Extract of a Note from George Chalmers, Esq; of the Board of Trade, dated 27th May 1796.*

HE congratulates Sir John on the near accomplishment of his great Work, and is glad to find, that perseverance is attended, on this occasion, with such happy success.

No XXIX. *Extract Translation of a Letter from the Bishop de Leon, dated 17th July 1797.*

I READ, with peculiar interest, your Work concerning the Statistical State of Scotland, because I had been engaged, some years ago, in similar inquiries in my own diocese, though not on so great a scale. Such inquiries afford the true means of ascertaining the best mode of improving the condition of a people.

No XXX. *Extract of a Letter from Mr George Stuart, formerly Professor of Humanity in the University of Edinburgh.*

OF all the letters which I received in the course of this inquiry, there is none which could possibly have had greater influence with me, than the following. Those who have been educated at the University of Edinburgh, must remember well, Professor George Stuart, (father of the well known Dr Gilbert Stuart), one of the best scholars, and one of the ablest men, at that University, when it certainly rivalled, for erudition and talents, the most celebrated seminaries in Europe. I had attended his class; but had not seen him for many years. It was by the merest accident, (franking a letter to him), that any intercourse was renewed between us. The respectable Professor, thought he would embrace that opportunity, of encouraging his old Pupil to persevere in a course, which met with his particular approbation. I think it right to give a larger extract from that letter, as it may be as serviceable to other young men, as to the person to whom it was addressed.

I HAD the honour of a letter last night from Lord Buchan, in which he desires me to send my answer to Sir John Sinclair, who will transmit it by post. It is with peculiar pleasure that I embrace this opportunity, which has been put in my way by his Lordship, of troubling you with this note, in order to revive the ideas of your youth, and to congratulate you on the
many

many and manly efforts you continue to make, for the real interest and honour of your country. While others are sailing down the stream, in quest of baubles, and are in danger every moment of sinking by the way, into merited contempt and oblivion, your perseverance and independent spirit, will transmit your name with honour to posterity, with present admiration, and true satisfaction to yourself. *Obliti patriæ memores tantum sui*, seems a fit motto for the present luxurious and degenerate age. If they are to be roused to any degree of public spirit, which indeed I despair of, the attempt is laudable, even though it should not succeed, *magnis tamen excidit ausis*. I have read all your printed works, which both instructed and pleased me. Your last attempt will be attended with great advantage, as every wise administration will attend to several hints of police, which arise out of the Reports of the different parishes.

APPENDIX, G.

An Account of the various Attempts, in Scotland, and in other Countries, to carry on Inquiries of a Statistical Nature, previous to the Commencement of this undertaking.

THERE is no circumstance, which tends to place in a stronger point of view, the difficulty attending the completion of such a Work, than to consider how often it has been either in vain undertaken, or imperfectly accomplished, on various other occasions. A short account of these attempts, so far as my information reaches*, it may not be improper to lay before those, who are pleased to interest themselves in the success of this publication.

1. *Spain*.—The first attempt of the sort in modern Europe, (if Doomsday Book is excepted), seems to have taken place in Spain, as far back as the year 1575. We are indebted for that important article of information,

to

* Some inquiries to the same effect, took place in Saxony, in Milan, in Tuscany, and perhaps in other states, the result of which I have not been able to ascertain.

to the Reverend Joseph Townsend, who has given us, in his travels, a very interesting account of this country. At the conclusion of that work, he mentions having had a curious paper put into his hands, before he quitted Barcelona, which made him wish for the one corresponding to it. It was a schedule, with inquiries, directed to all the Prelates and Corregidores, by Philip II. but he could not learn what answers had been returned, or what steps had been taken in consequence thereof. The Corregidores were to make a report on 57 heads, the major part of which related to geography, to natural and civil history, to heraldry, to agriculture, to the productions of each district, to mineralogy, &c.; but there were several also, purely Statistical, as,

I. What is the present number of houses and families? Were they formerly more numerous? If so, to what cause must be attributed the subsequent diminution?

II. Are all the inhabitants employed in useful labour?

III. Are the people prosperous and flourishing? What manufactures do they carry on? And in what do they excel?

IV. What waste lands and commons have they? What is the value of these to the community?

V. What is the value of the bishoprick, and of all the livings in the diocese, &c. &c.?

It is evident, as Mr Townsend very justly remarks, from the general scope of these inquiries, that the design of Philip II. was to gain a perfect knowledge of his kingdom, with a view to political economy; but, in order to dazzle the eyes of his subjects, he intermixed queries, which had no reference to that object*.

It is not known whether any material progress was made in this undertaking; but it certainly does more credit to the memory of the Sovereign under whose auspices it was commenced, than any circumstance, connected with his reign, that is recorded in history.

2. *Sweden*.—The second attempt, in modern Europe, seems to have been made in Sweden, *anno* 1630. The nature of the plan will appear, from a circular letter, addressed to the Clergy of his diocese, by the Archbishop of

* See Townsend's Travels through *Spain*, 2d edition, vol. III. p. 351. I believe that no notice of this inquiry is taken, in any of the histories of this Monarch's reign.

of Upsal*. Though the inquiries therein mentioned, were principally restricted to matters of antiquity, yet the justly celebrated Gustavus Adolphus,

* The following translation of that letter, transmitted to me by Mr Knox of Gottenburgh, may not be unacceptable to the reader.

Be it known to you all, by these presents, That his Majesty, our most gracious Lord and King, out of his royal favour and grace, having, with peculiar care and good affection for his subjects, deliberately taken into consideration, a plan, which in a various, extensive, and praise-worthy manner, may tend to the lasting honour and renown of our dear native country,

Has been graciously pleased, on the 30th May 1630, worthily to constitute, and with full powers to appoint, the well learned Dr Martinum Aschaneun, in Himmelby and Frestad, and Johan Hindrickson, to be antiquaries for the kingdom.

That his Majesty has furnished these learned men, with letters of instruction, ordaining them, narrowly and zealously, to search over the whole kingdom, after all remarkable old monuments, transactions, writings, and manuscripts, by which the history of our native country can be illustrated.

To collect such, and make their remarks on them; and more especially to attend to the following points, namely, to collect,

- I. All kinds of Runic writings, both in books, and upon stones,
- II. Runic computations, or the various distinctions and difference of Runic characters.
- III. Old law-books, corporation rights, secret papers, statutes, privileges, and edicts.
- IV. Old chronicles, histories, tables, Runic and heroic poems.
- V. Such old letters and writings as can ascertain the value of coins, and elucidate the genealogy and arms of noble families.
- VI. Old coins and monies.

And, in short, any thing further, which tends to the praise-worthy improvement of our native country.

All which, the fore-named learned men, are to deposit in the Royal Cabinet; and the result of their researches, shall, for the benefit and improvement of the kingdom, be afterwards published.

Therefore I, in his Majesty's name, earnestly and zealously request, that you severally, in your different parishes, do truly examine your parishioners, each apart, about useful old monuments, &c. which they, out of misconception,

phus, was too great a King, and too wise a Statesmen, to confine his attention, on such an occasion, to those objects merely, but farther extended it, to every thing that could promote "the praise-worthy improvement of his native country." What a Sovereign! who could thus unite, to the most splendid military achievements, such an attention to the arts of peace, and the pursuits of literature, on which, he knew well, that the happiness and prosperity of his subjects so materially depended.

It is quite uncertain, with what success this attempt was attended, though it is rather improbable, that any great progress was effected, otherwise some notice would have been taken of it in the histories of those times. Indeed, as Gustavus commenced his war in Germany, in June 1630, it is rather improbable, that such an undertaking could be carried on in his absence, with sufficient zeal and energy.

In modern times, a very intelligent political account has been published of Sweden, by Monsieur Canzler, a native of Saxony, who had resided at the Court of Stockholm in a diplomatic line, and had collected together a number of curious and interesting public accounts, respecting the state of the Swedish monarchy. It was originally published in the German, but was afterwards translated into French*.

3. *France*.—The next investigation of the sort, seems to have taken place anno 1698, by directions of *Lewis XIV. of France*, who ordered the Intendants of his different provinces, to draw up a particular account of each province, for the instruction of the Duke of Burgundy. It is believed,

that

ception, are apt to conceal; that you communicate your researches to his Majesty's antiquaries, sent through the kingdom on this laudable errand, in order that they may, at once, have at hand, the useful information above mentioned, for forwarding this important business, so that his Majesty's royal will may be gratified, the work be attended with success, and finally carried into full execution.

And that all this may be truly and faithfully accomplished on your part, I earnestly and zealously exhort you.

Feliciter Valette.

Datum Upsala, 27. Julii,

1631.

V. H. S.

PETRUS KENRICIUS UPSALIENSIS.

* See *Memoires pour Servir à la Connoissance des Affaires Politiques & Oeconomiques de Suede à Londres, (Dresden), par Canzler, 1776.*

that none of those provincial accounts have been printed. Voltaire mentions, with great approbation, the account of Languedoc, drawn up by Monsieur de Lamoignon de Baviile. In consequence of the obliging attention of Dr Nash, of Bevere, in Worcestershire, I had an opportunity of perusing that work, in manuscript, and was perfectly astonished, at the little useful information which it contained. If that was the best, the others must have been miserable indeed. The observations made by Voltaire on this undertaking, are perfectly well founded. He remarks, "Had what the King directed, been well executed, the collection would have been one of the most valuable monuments of the age. The design was excellent, and it would have been of the greatest use, had it been executed with judgment and uniformity *."

4. *Germany*.—It has already been remarked, that great attention has been paid in Germany to Statistical Inquiries. Baron Bielfield, in his *Elements of Universal Erudition* †, gives the best account of any which I have hitherto met with, of the progress made in that part of the Continent. The science called Statistics, he observes, "*teaches us what is the political arrangement of all the modern states of the known world.*" Professor Godfrey Achenwal of Gottingen, was the first to reduce that important subject into a true system. He has made it a separate science, "whence," he observes, "history borrows great lights, which furnishes the best materials for the constitution of a state, which enriches politics, and which prepares those of the brightest genius among the studious youth, to become one day able ministers of the state."

The following is a short abstract of the particulars, which, according to Baron Bielfield, are included in the science of Statistics. 1. A general knowledge of the states, into which Europe, and the other quarters of the globe, are respectively divided. 2. An examination of each particular state, and its revolutions. 3. A description of the territory of the state, and its foreign possessions. 4. An account of its population, 5. Its constitution, and arrangement of its public affairs. 6. The rights and privileges of its Magistrates. 7. The rights of the people, in regard to national assemblies, &c. 8. The titles, courts, ceremonials, &c. of the Sovereign. 9. The arrangement of the Cabinet, more especially the management of foreign affairs. 10. The direction of its interior, or domestic concerns. 11. The national church. 12. The judicial department. 13. The principal regulations with regard to its police. 14. The resources of the state, whether

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from

* See Voltaire's *Age of Lewis XIV.* vol. ii. p. 127, 128. edition 1752.

† Translated by Dr Hooper, and published in three vols. 8vo. anno 1770. See vol. iii. cap. 13. p. 163.

from agriculture, and all its natural productions, or manufactures, or commerce, interior and exterior, or mercantile navigation. 15. The revenues of the state, and the manner of collecting and employing them. 16. The state of the arts and sciences, of schools, universities, &c. 17. Its military forces, and mode of management. 18. Its marine. 19. Its internal interests. And, lastly, Its external interests, or the maxims it ought to observe, with regard to its neighbours, allies, &c.

Such is the wide field, into which the science of Statistics has been extended in Germany, and which the Germans have been cultivating for about 50 years, with all that painful research which belongs to the character of that respectable nation. It is unfortunate that German literature is so little cultivated in England; hence the mass of Statistical information, collected in that part of the Continent, would probably have been little known here, had it not been for the Political Survey of the present State of Europe, written by Professor Zimmerman*. In that ingenious and interesting work, we have an abstract of all the information which the Germans had accumulated; from which, however, it does not appear, that any work was known in that part of the world, which can at all rival, for extent of useful information, the Statistical Account of Scotland.

5. *Denmark*.—That respectable statesman, the late Count Bernstorff, sent me a work in the German language, printed *anno* 1795, but never published, which seemed to contain a great deal of Statistical information. There were tables in it of the finances of Denmark, of its debt and expenditure, of the commerce of the kingdom, and statements of its army, navy, &c. Some of the accounts were for the year 1778, but no material alteration had since taken place; and on the whole, it was the best account that could be obtained of the political state of that kingdom. I wished much to have had it translated into the English language, and recommended it for that purpose to the attention of the British Government, as a knowledge of the state of one nation, is extremely material to another; but the idea has not hitherto been carried into execution.

6. *England*.—It appears from Gough's British Topography, that inquiries into antiquities, and natural history, have long occupied the attention of the English.

Some valuable county histories have been published; but of the 40 counties into which England is divided, nine have found no antiquary hardy enough to attempt their general illustration; and the collections which

* Printed by C. Dilly, in London, *anno* 1787, in one volume, 8vo.

which have been made for *eight* others, were with-held from the public, as late as the year 1780. The account given of them by Mr Gough is not very favourable; he states, "that incorrect pedigrees, futile etymologies, verbose disquisitions, crowds of epitaphs, lists of landholders, and such *rago*, thrown together, without method, unanimated by reflections, and delivered in the most uncouth and horrid style, make the bulk of our county histories*." At the same time, in some of those works, some useful facts may be obtained, and they furnish materials, which may be of service, when a Statistical Survey of that kingdom, on a proper system, is undertaken.

But besides these county histories, various attempts have been made in England, of a more extensive nature, more especially that general survey, known under the name of *Domes-day Book*, which is thus described by Hume the historian: "In 1081, William began an undertaking, which proves his extensive genius, and does honour to his memory; it was a general survey of all the lands in the kingdom, their extent in each district, their proprietors, tenures, value, the quantity of meadow, pasture, wood, and arable land, which they contained; and in some counties, the number of tenants, cottagers, and slaves of all denominations, who lived upon them. He appointed commissioners for this purpose, who entered every particular in their register, by the verdict of juries; and after a labour of six years, (for the work was so long in finishing), brought him an exact account of all the landed property of his kingdom. This monument, called *Domes-day Book*, the most valuable piece of antiquity possessed by any nation, is still preserved in the Exchequer, and though only some extracts of it have hitherto been published, it serves to illustrate to us, in many particulars, the ancient state of England. The great Alfred had finished a like survey of the kingdom in his time, which was long kept at Winchester, and which probably served as a model to William in this undertaking. †"

It is unpardonable in the British Government, not to have translated this record, and by tables or otherwise, to have explained the political state of England, at the conquest. The book is properly, indeed, a royal rent-roll, and was intended for the purpose of ascertaining the income of the Crown, and the persons by whom it was payable. But, at the same time, it contains many curious facts, which would throw very considerable light on the ancient state of the country, and which ought not to be kept in a manner unintelligible to the public, from the uncouthness of its character, and the multitude

* British Topography, vol. i. p. 21.

† Hume's Hist. edit. 1778, in 8vo, vol. i. p. 275.

multitude of its abbreviations. If Parliament does not take it up, perhaps it is not beyond the powers of the Society of Antiquaries to accomplish.

Camden's *Britannia*, in its present improved state, is deservedly held in high estimation, and many eminent persons, in every branch of literature, have, with infinite labour and research, contributed to illustrate a number of articles, which, in the original editions of that work, had been either imperfectly explained, or totally omitted. It is a work, however, better calculated for the pursuits of the antiquary, than of the statesman.

The Political Survey of Britain, by Dr Campbell, printed in two volumes, 4to, *anno* 1774, is a judicious and laborious compilation, of all the information that the author could collect during a period of about 20 years. It contains a series of reflections on the situation, lands, inhabitants, revenues, colonies, and commerce, of this island; intended to shew, that we have not as yet approached near the summit of improvement, but that it will afford employment to many generations, before they push, to their utmost extent, the natural advantages of Great Britain.

In his preface, after giving a concise account of his attempt, he expressly says, "on the plan here pursued, we had no guide, though many helps and informations, without which, whatever it may be, it could never have been performed."

He introduces the work with stating, that in the light in which he was about to consider it, "the perfection of policy is, so to improve the natural advantages in the possession, or in the power of the society to which it is applied, as to make all, without distinction, who compose that society, as happy as it is possible, and to place this happiness on the firmest basis, so as that neither the ever mutable tempers of men, or the inevitable vicissitudes of time, should affect it."

The Doctor, unfortunately, had not materials sufficient for completing such a work, in the manner in which it ought to have been done. Had he lived a few years hence, possessed as he was, of zeal, industry, and judgment, his labours would have appeared to infinitely more advantage.

I understand that some queries, probably at the instance of Government, have, at various times, been circulated amongst the English Clergy, by the Bishops of their respective dioceses. The result of these inquiries I have not been able to discover, nor whether any public advantage has been derived from them.

It was, in some respects, with a view of ascertaining the state of the population of the kingdom, that a small duty was laid on christenings and burials; but the tax being found inadequate for that purpose, and vexatious in its operation, it was soon afterwards repealed.

The institution of the Board of Agriculture, was for Statistical as well as Agricultural objects. When I moved for the establishment of that Board

in Parliament, I pressed much the idea, "that it might be the means of obtaining a Statistical Account of England, and consequently of explaining the real situation of the country in every point of view, that could possibly be wished for by a Patriot or a Statesman. Such an Account of Scotland was already nearly completed, and specimens of it having been circulated abroad, it had received the most flattering marks of approbation. If, in England therefore, the same plan were executed, it would hardly be doubted, that it would soon be universally adopted in every other country, and thus the principles of political society, and the sources of national improvement, would be more completely ascertained, than in any former period of history *".

Various circumstances have hitherto prevented that idea from being taken up, though undoubtedly of essential importance; but if ever the Board should be placed on that respectable footing, to which such an institution is so peculiarly well entitled, its attention will necessarily be directed to Statistical Inquiries, on an extensive scale. In the *interim*, the Agricultural Surveys, contain a great deal of interesting information of a similar nature.

It may be proper here to add, that Messrs Williams, booksellers, Strand, London, have begun a Statistical Survey of the principality of Wales, and would probably have made considerable progress in it before this time, had not the state of the times been extremely unfavourable for such investigations.

7. *Ireland*.—In Ireland, they do not seem to have been very fortunate, in their attempts to elucidate the state of that country. A society founded by Petty and Molyneux, for philosophical inquiries, hardly subsisted for five years. Another society was formed about the year 1760, by whom a plan was drawn up for writing the descriptions of counties; but it is believed without much success. In the year 1773, the Dublin Society formed a Committee, by whom a number of queries were printed; but in four years time, they only obtained 40 answers, to 4000 copies they had circulated, many of which were perfectly trifling. The Committee was therefore dropped, and the scheme abandoned, even by Major Vallancy, who had prevailed upon the Society to engage in it. Indeed a zealous and public-spirited member of the Irish Parliament, (the Right Honourable William Burton Conyngham), transmitted to me an account of the parish of Kilronan, in the county of Roscommon and the adjoining district, written by
Mr

* See Speech in Parliament, 15th May 1793, in the preliminary Observations to the printed communications to the Board of Agriculture, p. 23. See also the original plan for establishing the Board, p. 20.

Mr Charles O'Connor, and dated Ballytra, near Carrick, 25th August 1773, which, he informed me, was the only one worth preserving in the whole collection.

8. *Scotland*.—The attempts which have been made in Scotland, have been numerous, but their progress did not justify any very sanguine expectations of success.

The first of which we have any account, was an inquiry begun by Sir Robert Gordon of Straloch, at Bleau's request, for his *Atlas Scotiæ*, printed *anno* 1662. From the answers he received, the description of several of the counties were drawn up, both by Sir Robert, and by David Buchanan, on whom he devolved it; but the troubles during the reign of Charles I. and the usurpation of Cromwell, prevented them from completing it.

The next attempt was made by Sir Robert Sibbald, who also circulated queries, answers to which he requested should either be addressed to himself, or transmitted to his bookseller. They principally relate to natural history, to the illustration of which, his chief attention was directed. His *Atlas Scoticus*, the result of those inquiries, according to Gough, still exists in manuscript, in which state it will probably remain*.

The late Walter Macfarlane, of Macfarlane, left behind him in manuscript, the Geographical descriptions of many parishes in Scotland, begun about the year 1722, and continued for several years after†. Who was the author of this attempt does not appear; but from a letter, beginning "Reverend Sir," signed Lud. Grant, dated Fortrose, 14th July 1732, it seems to have been undertaken by some clergyman‡. The following extract from Mr Grant's letter, (who was probably minister of Fortrose), it may not be improper to insert in this place. "I would have sent you what account of the parishes I was acquainted with here, some time ago, had I not expected, that some would have lent their helping hand, in describing such parishes as occurred to their knowledge; but finding them either shy to undertake, or unwilling to put themselves to any such trouble, pretending their little or no skill in topography; I thought it proper not to delay any longer, what I intended to say upon the head; I have sent a description of four parishes; since I have now frequent occasion to traverse them, and though I did not keep close to the printed direction, yet I think the specimen I have given, will furnish you with materials to range the bounds and distances, in what order you think fit. The design, in my judgment, is laudable; and would be both diverting and instructing,

* See Gough's Topography, Vol. ii. p. 557, & 558.

† See Vol. i. p. 251.

‡ Ditto, also p. 307. where there is a letter to the collector of those accounts, beginning "Reverend and Dear Sir."

“ *fructing*, to have a clear and distinct account of all the parishes in our
“ *kingdom* ; and none should be averse to contribute their endeavours, in
“ promoting and furthering such an excellent undertaking, which has not
“ as yet been done by any pen that I know of ; and I cordially wish it may
“ succeed,” &c.

From the little attention that had been paid to those inquiries, so evident from this letter, much success could not be expected. Short memorandums respecting a number of parishes were received ; but hardly any of them entitled to be printed. It is singular, that some of the best accounts are from the county of Caithness ; and indeed it is proper, on all such occasions, that the remote districts, which are the least known, should, if possible, be described with the greatest minuteness and accuracy.

The next attempt was by Mr William Maitland, an author well known by his history of London, and other works. He circulated also a number of printed queries ; but I understand, that the answers he received were very few, and that he soon found it necessary to relinquish the design.

It may be proper, in this place, to mention, the successful attempt made by the late Dr Webster, which he began in 1743, and completed in the year 1755. Though restricted merely to the state of the Church, and the population of the kingdom, yet this respectable clergyman, found the utmost difficulty, in completing his undertaking, in the space even of 12 years. It is fortunate, however, that he was able to accomplish it ; as it furnishes data, for making a comparison between the population of that period, and of the present times ; without which, it would be hardly possible to have satisfied the public, that the inhabitants in Scotland had materially increased within the last 40 years.

Mr Pennant, to whom the world owes so much entertaining, and so much useful information, was led to imagine, from the high idea he entertained of the Clergy of the Church of Scotland, that he could prevail upon them, to favour the public, with exact descriptions of their respective parishes ; and his wishes were in some instances complied with, but not to any great extent. Scotland, however, must always remember with gratitude, the spirit with which he pervaded every part of that country, and the favourable accounts he published both of it, and of its inhabitants, which contributed to remove many of the prejudices entertained against them.

The last attempt, previous to the commencement of the Statistical Account of Scotland, was by a respectable body, the Scotch Society of Antiquaries, of which David Steuart Erskine, Earl of Buchan, was the founder. A printed plan, for that purpose, was drawn up and circulated. The account of each parish, it was proposed should be divided into seven sections. The first was to contain a geographical and topographical description of the parish :
The

The second, the nature of the soil, number of inhabitants, &c.: The third, the state of the roads, &c.: The fourth, an account of its mines, minerals, and fossils: The fifth, its police, trade and manufactures: The sixth, its antiquities: And the last section, miscellaneous observations. In consequence of the circulation of this paper, the accounts of five parishes were obtained, which are printed in the 1st volume of the Transactions of the Society; and are certainly amongst the most valuable papers of the sort any where to be met with.

It was after so many attempts had been made, either fruitlessly, or on a narrow scale, that the Author of the Statistical Account of Scotland, began his extensive, laborious, and what was almost universally deemed, his impracticable undertaking. Perhaps an ambition to accomplish what others had failed to execute, might contribute to those exertions, which could alone carry through so great a Work. And if its publication should ever materially promote the improvement of this country, and ameliorate the situation of mankind in general, (which can hardly fail to be the case), it must in a great measure be attributed, to those who entered early with zeal into the cause, and encouraged the Author to persevere, by their approbation, and assistance.

APPENDIX,

APPENDIX, H.

General View of the Progress made in completing the Statistical Account of Scotland.

THE commencement of this undertaking, may be stated from the 25th May 1790, the date of the first Circular Letter to the Clergy; and the following *Table* will give a general view of the progress made in collecting the different Accounts since that period:

	Received during each pe- riod.	Total re- ceived at each pe- riod.	Total want- ing at each period.
Parochial returns received between the 25th May and 15th Novem- ber 1790, - - -	85	85	853
Ditto between 15th Nov. 1790, and the 1st June 1792, - -	440	525	413
Ditto from 1st June 1792, to 13th March 1793, - - -	47	572	366
Ditto from 13th March 1793, to 28th March 1794, - - -	226	798	140
Ditto from 28th March 1794, to 13th July 1796, - - -	109	907	31
Ditto from 13th July 1796, to 1st January 1798, - - -	27	934	4
Wanting on 1st January 1798, but received on or before the 29th January 1798, on which day the last parish was given in, and the materials for the publication com- pleted, - - -	4		
	938		

On this *Table* the following observations naturally occur :

In the *first* place, It appears, that on the 1st June 1792, about two years from the commencement of the Inquiry, 525 Accounts had been re-
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ceived, above one half of the number of parishes in Scotland. There was every reason, therefore, to hope, that the whole Work would have been completed within the space of a year or two more, and every exertion was made for that purpose, by employing a number of different printers, &c.; but the press was often stopped for want of manuscript.

In the *second* place, It is evident, that on the 28th March 1794, only 140 Accounts were wanting, and that it has taken very near four years to make up that deficiency. I am persuaded, that the Clergy, had no conception of the inconvenience with which this circumstance was attended, to the Author of the Statistical Account, and how much it retarded the measures he had in view, for promoting the improvement of the country, otherwise they would have made almost any exertion, sooner than have kept back, for so long a space of time, the completion of such a Work.—It is now over. But, I hope, if ever they should have it in their power to promote a similar undertaking, that they will shew, from the commencement, every possible degree of alacrity and zeal in such a cause; and will recollect the words of a respectable Clergyman, who well remarked on the occasion: “ It has often been a matter of astonishment to me, that I have gone so much into the spirit of procrastination, in a case like this, when an important object was held forth, and the individual exertion necessary was so trifling.”

In the *last* place, It is certainly to be regretted, after the Work had made such extraordinary progress, that greater exertions were not made by the deficient Clergy, to complete it more speedily than has been the case. At the same time, that cannot detract from the great merit of the body at large; and, on the whole, it is certainly more to be wondered at, that the Work was completed at all, than that it should have been so long in hand. For a long time, indeed, many of the Clergy imagined, that the plan would be dropped, as so many others had been; and consequently, that it was unnecessary for them to take the trouble of making any inquiry. Indeed, on the 8th November 1792, above two years and a half from the commencement of the undertaking, no less a number than 210, had not even acknowledged the receipt, or taken the smallest notice, of my repeated applications.

With regard to the progress made in printing the Work, the following Table will satisfy the curiosity of the Reader.

No. of the Volume.	Year when Printed.	No. of Districts contained in each Volume.	No. of Ministers in the Districts.
1	1791	53	54
2	1792	50	52
3	1792	80	80
4	1792	71	71
5	1793	40	53
6	1793	61 *	80
7	1793	55	60
8	1793	40	45
9	1793	39	41
10	1794	40	42
11	1794	50	50
12	1794	42	43
13	1794	42	45
14	1795	37	37
15	1795	29	29
16	1795	30	30
17	1796	44 †	45
18	1796	24 †	25
19	1797	32	37
20	1798	22 §	21
		Total districts, 881	Total ministers, 940

But as two Accounts of the parish of Largs have been published, one in Voll. II. and the other in Vol. XVII.; and two of the parish of Botriphnie, one in Vol. X. and the other in Vol. XVIII. The real numbers, in the Statistical Account, ought to be stated at 879 districts, and 938 Ministers. At present, indeed, there are in Scotland only 877 districts, and 936 Ministers, in consequence of the annexation of the parish of Cuthnie to that of Leochel, and the parish of Mains to that of Strathmartin, since the Statistical Accounts of them were published.

It

* Reckoning Edinburgh, Canongate, St Cuthberts, South Leith, and North Leith, as separate districts.

† Including a second Account of the parish of Largs.

‡ Including a second Account of the parish of Botriphnie.

§ Reckoning Old and New Aberdeen as separate districts.

It is well known, that the number of districts, and of Ministers, differ, in consequence of some districts having more than one Minister, a statement of which may not be unacceptable.

		Ministers.			Ministers.
Edinburgh, exclusive of the Canongate, St Cuthberts, South and North Leith,		16	Brought over, 56		
Glasgow, exclusive of the Gorbals, and Barony parish,		8	Dumfries,	-	2
Dundee,		5	Dunfermline,	-	2
New Aberdeen,		4	Dysart,	-	2
Inverness,		3	Elgin,	-	2
Paisley,		3	Greenock,	-	2
St Andrews, including St Leonards,		3	Haddington,	-	2
Old Aberdeen,		2	Hamilton,	-	2
Ayr,		2	Inveraray,	-	2
Brechin,		2	Kilmarnock,	-	2
Campbelltown,		2	Kirkwall,	-	2
Canongate,		2	South Leith,	-	2
Culrofs,		2	Lefmahago	-	2
Cupar Fife,		2	Montrose,	-	2
			Abbey of Paisley,	-	2
			Perth,	-	2
			St Cuthberts,	-	2
			Stirling,	-	2
Carry over, 56					90

The following, then, is an abstract of the Ecclesiastical state of Scotland, in this point of view, at the commencement of the Statistical undertaking:

No. of Districts.	No. of Ministers in each.	Total Ministers.
1	16	16
1	8	8
1	5	5
1	4	4
3	3	9
24	2	48
848	1	848
879		936

In consequence, however, of the annexations already mentioned, the number of districts is reduced to 877, and of Ministers to 936.

The

The following is a view of the Ecclesiastical establishment of Scotland, as divided into Synods and Presbyteries, and the number of Ministers in each Synod.

	No. of Presbyteries.	No. of Ministers in each Synod.
Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale,	7	116
Merse and Teviotdale,	6	66
Dumfries,	5	54
Galloway,	3	37
5 Glasgow and Air,	7	130
Perth and Stirling,	5	80
Fife,	4	71
Angus and Mearns,	6	81
Aberdeen,	8	101
10 Moray,	7	54
Ross,	3	23
Sutherland and Caithness,	3	23
Argyle,	5	41
Glenelg,	5	29
Orkney,	4	30
Total 15	Total Presbyteries 78	Total Ministers 936

CONCLUSION.

*Hints explaining the Nature and Object of a Work, to be entitled,
 " Analysis of the Political State of Scotland, with a View of the
 " Principles of Statistical Philosophy," the result of the Statistical
 Account of Scotland.*

IT was my intention, to have printed, with the last volume of the Statistical Account of Scotland, a general View or Analysis of the Political State of that part of the Kingdom. together with some explanation of the Principles of what may be called Statistical Philosophy. But I find, that such an undertaking, will require more leisure than it is possible for me at present

present to bestow upon it, and perhaps it may be as well, to give such an account of a kingdom, at so marked a period, as the conclusion, or the commencement of a century; and if health will permit, and no accident intervenes to prevent it, I hope that it will be in my power, in the course of the year 1800, or 1801, to publish such a Work, as cannot be rivalled, in regard to the state of any other country.

In the interim, I think it proper to lay before the public, some information respecting the plan of that Work, as it may induce public-spirited individuals, to favour me with their remarks upon it; and in case any circumstance should prevent me, from executing such a Work myself, it may furnish hints to any other person by whom it may be undertaken. With that view, I have drawn up the following general observations, applicable to an Account of Aberdeenshire, as a specimen of the manner, in which the mass of information contained in the Statistical Account, ought partly to be arranged by parishes and counties, before any important result can be drawn from it.

General Observations, respecting the Results to be drawn from the Statistical Account of Scotland, and the manner in which the same ought to be made.

A CONSIDERABLE proportion of the vast mass of important information, contained in the Statistical Account of Scotland, may be condensed, into a small compass, in three different ways: 1. There are a variety of articles, as the General State of the Population, &c. where the information may be given, in the shape of *Parochial Tables*: 2. There are other particulars, as the State of Property, &c, where *calculations by Counties*, may be preferred: And, 3. There are many other points, where *general computations for the Kingdom at large*, will be found more eligible.

In regard to each of these, the attention of the reader is requested, to the following Preliminary Observations.

I. PAROCHIAL TABLES.

Though it could not be expected, that complete information could be procured, respecting all the particulars contained in the following Tables, from every individual Clergyman, yet a sufficient number of facts has been obtained, to form calculations, the average result of which, will be sufficiently accurate for every useful purpose. There is indeed every reason to believe,

believe, that computations, though, perhaps inaccurate in regard to particular districts, may on the whole be right. Where they are drawn upon a great scale, and on proper data, they may approach very near the truth, even where, in many of the minute particulars, there are considerable errors*.

In the following Statistical Tables there are 14 Columns.

Column 1. This will merely contain the names of the different Parishes in each Country, arranged in alphabetical order, to which, if thought necessary, might be added, the volume of the Statistical Account of Scotland, where the description of each parish is to be found. In several instances, parishes are situated in different counties. Where that is the case, the whole district is included in that county, where either the Church or the greater part of the parish is situated.

Col. 2.

* The following example will explain the meaning of this observation. Let us suppose that there are 4 parishes, the valued rent of which is known, but only two of which have their real rent returned; for instance,

Valued Rent, Scotch money.		Real Rent, Sterling money.	
No. 1	L. 5300		L. 3100
— 2	3500		1300
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
	L. 8800		L. 4400

It is evident, that the average of the two parishes, is at the rate of L. 2 of valued, to L. 1 of real rent.

Let us suppose, that the other two parishes, have their valued rent returned as follows.

Valued rent	
No. 3	L. 4200
— 4	7550
	<u> </u>
	L. 11750

According to the data above mentioned, the real rent of No. 3. ought to be L. 2100, and of No. 4. L. 3775, both of which may be wrong; the one may be too much, and the other too little, yet the one error may correct the other, and the total result may be perfectly right.

So accurate, however, was the above mode of computation found, that the real rent of one parish, computed at L. 2450, was found, by the Minister's return, to be L. 2460.

Col. 2. The second column will give a statement of the population of Scotland, as drawn up for the information of Government, by the late Rev. Dr Alexander Webster, one of the Ministers of Edinburgh, and completed by him in the year 1755. The Doctor's account was never printed, but there are some copies of it, in manuscript, in private hands. In his introduction to the report, he states, "That he had established, in the year 1743, " a general correspondence both with clergy and laity, for preparing a " scheme, which was afterwards ratified by Parliament, for a provision " for Ministers widows: That he had improved that correspondence, for " the purpose of procuring lists, either of individuals, or of persons above a " certain age, in the different parishes of Scotland: That, when the lists " contained only those above a certain age, he calculated the amount of " the whole inhabitants, by the proportion which they might be supposed " to bear to the number of souls, according to the most approved Tables, " compared with the fact in many parts of Scotland, where the Ministers, " at his desire, not only numbered their parishioners, but distinguished their " respective ages. So that, it is humbly apprehended, the account he has " given of the number of the people, is sufficiently exact to answer every " valuable purpose."

Dr Webster's original inquiries, it would appear, were merely for the purpose of fixing data, to calculate the principles, on which the Society for the benefit of the Widows of the Scotch Clergy, might be established: But afterwards, at the desire of that respectable character, the late President Dundas, then Lord Advocate for Scotland, to whom the work is dedicated, he drew up a General Report, with a view of ascertaining: 1. The population of Scotland. 2. The income of the Clergy, an augmentation of which was then a subject of discussion. 3. The Patrons of the different livings, and, 4. The number of fighting men, an inquiry considered to be of peculiar importance at that period, in consequence of the warlike spirit which the Highlanders had then recently displayed, a small body of whom had boldly marched from their native mountains, till they had reached within a few miles of the metropolis of the empire. The number of fighting men in Scotland, were then computed at 253,076.—

It is extremely fortunate, in many points of view, that this inquiry was begun and completed. In the first place, it enabled Dr Webster, (whose exertions on this occasion, and skill in political arithmetic, cannot be too much praised), to draw up the calculations for the Widows fund, on such just principles, that the result has turned out hardly in any respect different from his computations; and thus a most valuable institution was established, on foundations creditable to the author of it, and advantageous to a most respectable body of men.—In the second place, it furnishes a useful source of comparison, with the present population of the country, which otherwise could

could not have been attained. It is certain, that the same pains were not then taken by the Clergy, as at the present period. A much longer space of time was also employed in carrying on the inquiry, for it was begun in 1743, and not ended till 1755, a period of about twelve years; whereas the present inquiry has been completed in less than eight years. At the same time, had it not been for Dr Webster's report, it would have been impossible to have convinced many, that the population had not materially decreased. Indeed, so prevalent is the inclination to praise the times past, and undervalue the present, that in the course of these Statistical Inquiries, I have found the Clergy, in guessing the population in 1755, have in every instance exceeded the number stated by Dr Webster, and have almost uniformly gone below the truth, if they made a rough guess of the number of their parishioners at this time, which evidently appeared, when afterwards they were prevailed upon, to take the trouble of making a special enumeration. Dr Webster, however, and the Clergy at that time, had every possible inducement, to make the population of Scotland as considerable as they could. The Doctor was drawing up a paper for the consideration of Government, in whose eyes he would naturally be inclined to place his native country, in as favourable and respectable a light as possible; and the Clergy were to make a return of facts, on the accuracy of which, the future comfort of their wives and families, and the augmentation of their own livings, a point at that time in discussion, depended. It is impossible, therefore, to suppose, that the population of Scotland, could, in such circumstances, be undervalued.

Col. 3d. This column contains the Population as returned to the Author of this Work, in the course of his Inquiry, which has occupied the space of about eight years. There is reason to believe, that the population of such an extent of country, was never before so accurately taken. Not only the number of the inhabitants, but also very satisfactory information respecting their ages, the place of their birth, their religious persuasions, their occupations and situations in life, their residence, whether in towns, in villages, or in the country, together with Tables of the number of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, in each District, have been given. These are particulars, however, the consideration of which it is proposed to reserve, for those general computations which will be drawn up, to explain the internal structure of society in Scotland, and the general state of the kingdom. This column, therefore, will only contain the present state of our population.

Col. 4th and 5th. The Population in 1755, and its present state, being thus ascertained, it is next proposed, to give a general view of the increase or decrease in each parish, for the purpose of grounding an Inquiry, the result of which must be extremely important, as in consequence of it, those

measures will be recommended to the attention of the public, which have been found to occasion an increase of population, whilst those which have been unfortunately distinguished by a contrary tendency, will be distinctly enumerated, and unless counterbalanced by some striking advantages, will be justly reprobated.

Col. 6th. This column gives a view of the Valued Rent, which is always stated in Scotch money, L. 12 of which is only equal to L. 1 Sterling. This is the rate according to which the Land Tax is now assessed. It was originally introduced during the Usurpation of Cromwell, but was afterwards more fully established by an act of the Scotch Convention, in 1667. In some cases, the valuation taken during the government of the Protector, continues the rule; but in general, new valuations have since been taken, which have been occasionally altered from time to time. The rents, however, being estimated at a remote period, are certainly in general low. At the same time, the proportional increased value, compared to that of England, would not have been considerable, had not the Agricultural system, and legal policy of Scotland, been infinitely more favourable to improvement than those of her sister kingdom.

Col. 7th. In the next column, the Real Rent is stated in Sterling money. I know that some doubts are entertained, how far it is prudent to lay this information before the public, as if it were possible to alter that solemn compact between the two nations, by which their respective proportions of the Land Tax were for ever ascertained *. The fact, however, is, that on
this

* Nothing can be stronger or more explicit than this Article. It is conceived in the following terms :

Art. 9th. “ That whenever the sum of one million, nine hundred, ninety-seven thousand, seven hundred and sixty-three pounds, eight shillings and fourpence halfpenny, shall be enacted by the Parliament of Great Britain, to be raised in that part of the United Kingdom called England, on land and other things usually charged in Acts of Parliament there, for granting an aid to the Crown by a Land Tax : That part of the United Kingdom now called Scotland, shall be charged by the same Act, with a sum of forty-eight thousand pounds, free of all charges, as the *quota* of Scotland to such tax, and so proportionably for any greater or lesser sum raised in England by any tax on land, and other things usually charged together with the land ; and that such *quota* for Scotland, in the cases aforesaid, be raised and collected in the same manner as the Cess now is in Scotland ; but subject to such regulations, in the manner of collecting, as shall be made by the Parliament of Great Britain.

this head there is no ground for complaint on the part of England, or for apprehension on the part of Scotland. Let the English pass a general bill of inclosure; let them modify tithes, so as to prevent their being a bar to improvement; let them restrain the poor's rates within moderate bounds; let them abolish any obnoxious remnants of the feudal system; let them grant proper leases to their tenants, and let them demand an adequate income from their estates, and the land of England will soon be as cheaply taxed as that of Scotland. It is owing to the circumstances above alluded to, that the rents of Scotland have proportionably increased more, under all the disadvantages of an inferior soil, of an inferior climate, of an inferior capital, and of inferior markets. Give England the same legal advantages which Scotland at present happily possesses, and its Agricultural prosperity would increase, in such a ratio, that the Land Tax it is now subject to would not be felt.

It is proper here to observe, that in many instances the Clergy were restrained from giving any return of the Real Rent, from an apprehension of giving offence to their parishioners. Where that is the case, the real rent is computed, according to the proportion of the real to the valued rent, in those parishes where a return of both has been made, and consequently on data, that cannot, on the whole, be materially erroneous*.

Col. 8th. The next column relates to the Stipends of the Clergy. Their income consists, 1. Of Money stipend—2. Of Grain, comprehending various articles, as wheat, barley, bigg, or inferior barley, oats, and oat-meal—And, 3. The value of a glebe, which is not, in all cases, of much use to the incumbent; but instead of entering into all those articles separately, it was thought more advisable to convert the whole into one sum, and to state the Income of each Minister *in cumulo*. To these ecclesiastical expences, there is to be added a sum for communion-elements, i. e. for purchasing wine and bread when the Sacrament is celebrated, which sum, however,

* The real rents of Scotland might be very nearly known, by examining the late processes for augmenting the livings of the Clergy, where the rent of the parish is always mentioned, and from which few parishes have been exempted. About 40 years ago, the whole land rent of Scotland was only computed to amount to L. 600,000 *per annum*. The increase is greatly owing to the higher price of grain, of cattle, and other agricultural productions. It remains to be ascertained, by computing the value of money, in purchasing the necessaries of life, and the labour of man, at various periods, what the difference really is.

ever, does not, in every instance, pay the expence attending the celebration. The amount will be separately stated, when information sufficiently accurate can be obtained,

The price of the grain will vary, in the different counties, according to the quality commonly raised in each.

Col. 9th. Scotland has long been celebrated for the attention paid to the education of its inhabitants, and it is believed to be the only kingdom in Europe, where a school is established by law in every parish, and where, for a very inconsiderable sum, the children of the poorest cottager may be taught to read and write, and even some of the higher branches of education.—The effects of this on society will be an important subject of inquiry.—It was judged extremely desirable, therefore, to ascertain the number of Scholars in each district.—Where no returns were made, an asterisk is prefixed, and the number was computed, according to the population of the district, in proportion to that of other parishes, where the returns were complete.

Col. 10th. In the next column, there is an estimate of the legal Salaries paid to the Parochial Schoolmasters.—Where no return has been made, an asterisk is placed, and the blank is filled up, according to the average of the other parishes. In addition to the legal salaries, the schoolmasters have certain emoluments of a casual nature, which will be separately estimated; but altogether, they form an inadequate compensation, for so useful a body of men.

Col. 11th. The Number of the Poor in each parish is stated in this column. Where no return was made, an asterisk is also prefixed, and a computation is made, according to the average number of the poor, and of the population, in other parishes, whence returns have been transmitted. This column includes the occasional, as well as the inrolled permanent poor, as the Clergy have rarely made a distinction between them.

Col. 12th. The management of the poor in Scotland, is one of the most curious and important particulars, connected with the Statistical History of that country.—They are not only, in general, maintained by the voluntary contributions of the more opulent part of the inhabitants, but, from the care and frugality with which their funds have been managed, considerable sums, compared to the money received, have been accumulated.—It was thought advisable to give a general view of the fund thus created, which does so much credit, both to the charitable disposition of the people, and to the prudent management of those who have had the conduct of it.

Col. 13th. This column contains the annual voluntary Collections, at the church doors of the different parishes, for the maintenance of the Poor.—In some districts in the south of Scotland, the baneful system of assessments has been introduced.—Where that is the case, that circumstance will

be

be stated in a note.—The number of those districts have hitherto been very few, and it is hoped they will not be suffered to increase.

Col. 14. In this column will be stated the Total Annual Income of the Poor, resulting from the interest of their capital stock, the annual voluntary collections, the profit derived from the use of the pall or mort-cloth, which goes to the poor's fund, and the legal assessments, where any have taken place. In all the parishes there are voluntary collections, but in many instances, the returns made by the Clergy, state merely the total income, without discriminating the particulars.

This concludes the great mass of information, which it is thought necessary to put into the shape of Parochial Tables.

II. COUNTY COMPUTATIONS.

There are several particulars which it is thought better to endeavour to ascertain, by County, instead of Parochial Computations.—These relate, 1. To the state of the landed property in the county.—2. To the manner in which it is employed.—3. To the number and value of the live-stock which it maintains.—4. To the amount of its agricultural productions, including timber.—5. To the productions of its manufactures and commerce.—6. To the value of its mines, fisheries, and kelp.—And, lastly, To the general state of the district.

1. *State of Property.*—It is of the utmost importance in every county, to ascertain the manner in which its territories is possessed, whether by great or by small proprietors, in what proportion by each, what is the total number of proprietors of land, what portion of the kingdom is held by corporations, and other points of a similar nature. With that view, it is proposed to give some account of the State of Property in each county, in regard to these particulars.

2. *Mode of Occupation.*—In many of the parochial returns, an account is given of the manner in which the territory of the district is employed.—But without accurate surveys of each, the information could not be complete, and it is impossible to attempt this parochially. There are sufficient data, however, for making calculations, regarding the state of each county, in this important respect.

3. *Live Stock.*—The number and value of the domestic animals maintained in a country, is another object which it is desirable to ascertain. It could not be expected, that an account of live stock would be made from every

every parish, but, in general, the returns are sufficiently numerous, to justify calculations on safe data, (such as the rent of each), for the parishes from which no return of stock has been made. The value of the stock *per* head, it is evident, must vary, according to the price of the different sorts in different counties.

4. *Agricultural Produce.*—This is another most important object of inquiry, returns of which could not be expected from every individual parish.—There are three modes of estimating it.—1. By calculating the produce, according to the quantity of land supposed to be occupied for different purposes, whether arable, pasture, &c.—2. By multiplying the real rent in any district, according to the known proportions between the real rent and the produce, in any particular parish whence a return has been made.—Or, 3. By computing it according to the supposed consumption of the inhabitants, deducting any articles imported.—Calculations of Agricultural produce are particularly essential, because they will prove how infinitely superior, in point of importance and extent, our Agricultural resources are to our commercial, a point hitherto little attended to, either in this country or on the continent.—Hence the absurd attempt of France to ruin this kingdom, by excluding its ships from the ports of Europe.—That our foreign commerce is of great importance, cannot be questioned; but, at the same time, it is proper to observe, that we draw as much real profit from agriculture in one year, as from commerce in five.

5. *Productions of Manufactures and Commerce.*—On this important head it will be difficult to give any satisfactory information.—In many respects, the accounts must necessarily be defective, and it is not easy to distinguish those branches of commercial or manufacturing industry, which are properly speaking dependent upon agriculture, from such as are purely commercial. The latter indeed, ought, strictly speaking, to be confined to articles, the raw materials of which are imported from other countries, or which, when they are either manufactured here, or imported in a manufactured state, are again exported.—In this point of view, the productions of manufactures and commerce are not at all to be compared, in point of value and importance, to those of agriculture.

6. *Mines, Fisheries, and Kelp.*—These sources of public wealth, being more of a local than of a general nature, are on that account joined together, and indeed will principally be taken notice of, when the general state of the kingdom, in regard to these two important particulars, comes to be considered.

7. *General County Statements.*—It is proposed, in the last place, to lay before the reader a general view of the state of each County, exhibiting at one glance, a summary of those articles, with regard to which, an active and public-spirited Statesman, would be most anxious to procure information.

It is impossible to expect, that all these particulars, whether regarding parishes or counties, can be given in so very exact a state, as to escape the remarks of little critics, though it is believed that they will be sufficiently correct, to answer every useful purpose of inquiry; and the foundation being once laid, there can be no doubt, that by perseverance, and farther investigation, they may ultimately be brought to such a state of minute perfection, as may be judged necessary by the public.

III. GENERAL COMPUTATIONS.

The great object of the Statistical Inquiry, was to accomplish, what had hitherto never been even attempted, namely, to ascertain *the internal structure of Society*. Various ingenious authors have perplexed themselves and their readers, by puzzling themselves about what they termed the productive and unproductive classes, without having ever analysed the real state of a political community. By the assistance of the Clergy of Scotland, I have been enabled to resolve a problem hitherto involved in mystery. The various classes into which a society, containing about 1,550,000 souls, is divided, the modes by which they respectively obtain their subsistence, and the means by which their condition may be improved, will be explained with a degree of precision hardly to be expected in a first attempt.—Information of that sort, however, only becomes interesting, in proportion to the scale on which it is given, and hence it seems more desirable, to reserve all discussions concerning the classes of society, or the distribution of a political community, for those general computations, which will be drawn up, when the general state of the kingdom is explained. At the same time, as this Work may fall into the hands of numbers, who may not have an opportunity of perusing the general Statistical Account of Scotland, the curiosity of many readers will be gratified, by perusing the following Table, transmitted by the Reverend Mr Morrice, the intelligent Minister of Kincardine O'Neil. The nature of the various particulars will there appear, respecting which, returns from every district cannot be looked for, and consequently, where general computations are greatly to be preferred.

STATISTICAL

STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE
PARISH OF KINGARDINE O'NEIL *, COUNTY OF ABERDEEN.

LENGTH in English miles,	-	-	-	7
Breadth,	-	-	-	5
Number of Acres, calculated to be about	-	-	-	30,000
Population, <i>anno</i> 1755,	-	-	-	1706
<i>anno</i> 1791,	-	-	-	2075
Increase,	-	-	-	369
Average of Births	} for six years preceding 1791,	{		39
of Deaths				35
of Marriages				15
Inhabitants in towns,	-	-	-	none.
in villages,	-	-	-	100
in the country,	-	-	-	1975
Number of Males,	-	-	-	893
Females,	-	-	-	1182
Persons under 10 years of age,	-	-	-	417
— between 10 and 20,	-	-	-	297
— — — — — 20 and 50,	-	-	-	786
— — — — — 50 and 70,	-	-	-	465
— — — — — 70 and 80,	-	-	-	76
— — — — — 80 and 90,	-	-	-	34
— — — — — 90 and 100,	-	-	-	none.
— — — — — above 100,	-	-	-	none.
Families,	-	-	-	500
Houses inhabited,	-	-	-	500
Ditto uninhabited,	-	-	-	none.
New Houses built within these 10 years,	-	-	-	76
Old ditto pulled down,	-	-	-	63
Married persons,	-	-	-	800
Children, at an average, from each marriage,	-	-	-	5
Twins, &c. born in the parish for the last ten years,	-	-	-	20
Batchelors, or unmarried men above fifty,	-	-	-	12
Unmarried women above forty-five,	-	-	-	60
				Number

* It is believed, that properly, it should be written, Kincardine on the *Neal*, or *Nule*, a small burn or rivulet which runs near the church.

Appendix.

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Number of Widowers,	12
Widows,	25
Members of the Established Church,	2041
Seceders,	10
Roman Catholics,	4
Episcopalians,	4
Males born out of the parish,	uncertain.
Females ditto,	uncertain.
Persons born abroad,	none,
in England,	3
in Ireland,	none.
in the Colonies,	none.
Proprietors residing,	5
non-residing,	7
Clergymen,	1
Merchants,	none.
Physicians,	none.
Surgeons,	none.
Writers or Attornies,	none.
Schoolmasters, (parochial)	1
Farmers above L. 50 <i>per annum</i> ,	none.
Ditto under L. 50,	60
Shopkeepers,	10
Innkeepers,	3
Smiths,	6
Masons,	2
Carpenters,	17
Weavers,	15
Shoemakers,	14
Tailors,	20
Butchers,	none.
Millers,	8
Bakers,	none.
Gardeners,	3
Male domestic servants,	3
Female ditto,	none.
Male farm servants,	75
Female ditto,	85
Dyers and other occupations by which persons gain a livelihood in the parish,	2
Poor,	33
Capital of their funds,	L. 40
Annual income,	L. 10

Number of Young persons taught English, Writing, &c. at	56
the parochial school *,	
Latin,	8
Greek,	none.
At the University,	1
Ships,	
Small vessels,	} none.
Boats,	
Seamen,	
Fishermen,	
Persons serving in the Navy, during the last war,	
Ditto in the Army,	80
Average of Persons, who have settled in the parish, during the	} 100
last 5 or 10 years,	
Ditto who have emigrated from it,	60
Gentlemen's Carriages,	none.
Carts,	72
Ploughs,	110
	L. s. d.
Valued rent, in Scotch money,	3675 13 4
Real rent, anno 1750, } in Sterling, {	1225 0 0
anno 1791, }	1874 0 0
Rents spent in the parish,	1234 0 0
Value of articles exported,	600 0 0
Ditto imported,	400 0 0

VALUE OF STOCK.

Number of Draught horses 130, valued at L. 5 0 0 each	Total	650 0 0
Saddle & carriage horses, none,	0 0 0	—
Best cattle, 600,	5 0 0	—
Inferior ditto, 1200,	3 0 0	—
Best sheep, none,	0 0 0	—
Inferior ditto, 3000,	0 5 0	—
Swine, 30,	4 0 0	—
Goats, Deer, &c. none,	0 0 0	—
	Total value of stock,	L. 8120 0 0

The above was the value in 1791; it has since greatly increased.

ANNUAL

* There are above 100 more taught in private.

ANNUAL PRODUCE.

CROPS.	Number of Acres under each.	Produce per Acre. BOLLS.	Price per Boll.			Total Price per Acre.			Total. produce. BOLLS	Total value.		
			L.	S.	D.	L.	S.	D.		L.	S.	D.
Oats, -	4500	3	0	10	0	1	10	0	13,280	6,900	0	0
Bear, -	800	4	0	12	0	2	8	0	3,200	1,920	0	0
Barley, -	none.											
Wheat, -	none.											
Beans, -	none.											
Peas, -	20	3	0	10	0	1	10	0	60	30	0	0
Potatoes, -	50	12	0	8	0	4	16	0	600	280	0	0
Flax, -	no return.											
Turnips, -	60					8	0	0		480	0	0
		STONES.	per STONE.						STONES			
Meadow hay, } or natural grafs, }	none.											
Sown grafs,	50	300	0	0	6	7	10	0	150,000	375	0	0
Pasture, at L. 1 per horse ; 15 s. per cow ; and 3 s. per sheep.										1,930	0	0
Annual produce of Gardens -										60	0	0
Orchards, none,												
Woods and Plantations -										80	0	0
Fisheries, none,												
Mines, none,												
Total Value of Annual Produce, -										L. 12,015	0	0

A number of returns in detail, equally curious and important as that of Kincardine O'Niel, are dispersed through the Statistical Volumes.—These will furnish sufficient data, on which the general state and structure of society, in the northern part of the island, may be ascertained. But they contain such a number of particulars, that few readers would have patience to go through them, were they multiplied over a thousand districts.

I have thus laid before the reader, a general view, of some, among many other important articles of information, which the Statistical Account of Scotland affords, and which it would be in vain to search for in any former publication.—Possessed of such a basis, on which to ground their reasoning, or their conduct, with what advantage will not future political authors explain the principles of policy, and future statesmen direct the administration of public affairs ! May these labours have the effect of rendering the rulers of nations wise, and those whom they govern happy ! May they be the means of promoting the interests, not only of this, or of that community, but of the species at large ! And may the doctrines thence to be inculcated, be from time to time improved, until the principles on which political society ought to be founded, will ultimately reach their utmost standard of perfection.

I shall now proceed to give some Tables of Aberdeenshire, by way of specimen how such a work ought to be drawn up.

STATISTICAL TABLE * of the

1.		2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
Parish.	Vol. Page.	Popu- lation 1755.	Popu- lation 1790. — 1797.	In- crease.	De- crease.	Valued rent, Scotch money.	Real Rent, Sterl. mo- ney.
						L. s. d.	L.
Aberdeen, Old, or Old Machar, 2 ministers	XIX. 140	4945	8107	3162		5747 7 10	10500
Aberdeen New, including Foot- dee, or Fittie, 4 ministers	XIX. 140	10785	16120	5335			
Aberdour -	XII. 575	1397	1306	—	91	1963 6 8	1600
Aboyne -	XIX. 296	1695	1050	—	645	2005 8 10	1200
5. Alford -	XV. 447	990	663	—	327	3126 12 8	1500
Auchindore -	XII. 490	839	590	—	249	1322 11 4	720
Auchterless -	XII. 306	1264	1264	—	—	3153 6 8	1500
Belhelvie -	VII. 218	1471	1318	—	153	4463 6 8	*2340
Birfe -	IX. 103	1126	1300	174	—	3139 8 4	*1650
10. Bourty -	IX. 434	525	456	—	69	2501 0 0	1000
Cabrach -	VII. 361	960	700	—	260	454 2 10	*240
Cairny -	XII. 127	2690	2600	—	90	3610 17 0	*1900
Chapel of Garioch	XI. 500	1351	1035	—	316	4733 13 4	2460
Clatt -	VIII. 535	559	425	—	134	1275 4 4	600
15. Clunie -	X. 235	994	885	—	109	2333 6 8	1100
Coldstone, Logie	IX. 510	1243	1132	—	61	2783 0 0	1063
Coull -	III. 198	751	766	—	15	1532 11 2	800
Crathie & Braemarr	XIV. 334	2671	2251	—	420	3547 16 8	1826
Crimond -	XI. 409	765	917	152	—	2172 13 4	1300
20. Cruden -	V. 431	2549	2028	—	521	5314 16 4	3100
Culsalmond	III. 240	810	745	—	65	2100 0 0	1280
Cushnie, (which is now annex- ed to Leo- chel) -	IV. 173	—	—	—	—	923 5 0	456
Daviot -	VI. 85	975	950	—	25	2270 0 0	980
Deer, New -	IX. 184	2313	2800	487	—	5159 6 8	3000
25. Deer, Old -	XVI. 469	2813	3267	454	—	6127 16 8	4200
Drumblade -	IV. 52	1125	886	—	239	3066 13 4	*1600
Drumoak -	III. 315	760	692	—	68	1000 0 0	520
Dyce -	III. 130	383	352	—	31	1706 13 4	*900
Fcht -	XIII. 615	1277	963	—	314	2364 15 0	996
30. Ellon -	III. 98	2523	1830	—	693	8953 6 8	*4700
Fintray -	III. 236	905	851	—	54	3007 8 4	1300
Forbes -	XI. 189	456	370	—	86	1166 13 4	652
Forgue -	XII. 279	1802	1778	—	24	3936 6 8	2500
Foveran -	VI. 62	1981	1230	—	751	4926 6 2	2600
35. Frazerburgh	VI. 1	1682	2060	378	—	3000 0 0	*1575
Fyvie -	IX. 459	2528	2194	—	334	6145 6 8	3000
Gartley -	XI. 138	1328	1800	472	—	1040 15 0	800
Glasf -	VII. 399	1093	776	—	317	1800 0 0	800
Glenbucket	XIX. 607	430	449	19	—	785 0 0	400
40. Glenmuick, &c.	XII. 215	2270	2117	—	153	3384 16 8	1637

* For the labour of drawing up this interesting Table, and much valuable assistance of the same nature, I feel myself infinitely indebted to Mr John Wood of the Excise Office, Edinburgh.

Appendix.

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COUNTY of ABERDEEN, by PARISHES.

8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.
Minister's Stipend, &c. the grain con- verted.	No. of Scho- lars.	Total income of the School- master.	Num- ber of Poor.	Capital stock of the Poor's Funds.	Annual Col- lections.	Total annual income of the Poor, includ- ing collec- tions.
L. s. d.		L. s. d.		L. s. d.	L. s. d.	L. s. d.
{ 175 8 0 72 11 8			240	265 0 0	102 12 0	165 17 0
{ 126 0 0 126 0 0 126 0 0 126 0 0			481			829 0 0
62 19 0	57	*14 0 0	30	150 0 0	12 10 0	20 0 0
*80 0 0	*35	*14 0 0	*30			*20 0 0
5. 97 9 4	16	17 10 6	15	200 0 0	8 1 9	15 18 0
65 7 2	25	9 16 0	11	40 0 0	8 0 0	11 0 0
108 10 0	24	21 12 2	24	120 0 0	29 0 0	34 8 0
111 0 0	20	16 0 0	35	200 0 0	32 5 6	41 1 6
105 11 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	110	10 0 0	65	800 0 0	12 0 0	50 0 0
10. 81 0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	12	6 2 0	8	100 0 0	8 9 0	12 19 0
54 15 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	30	11 7 1 $\frac{1}{3}$	16	50 0 0	2 0 0	4 10 0
118 13 4	*90	*14 0 0	*60			*40 0 0
119 14 0	40	18 6 6	35	106 0 0	18 0 0	35 0 0
75 15 0	18	11 19 4	10		6 5 6	6 5 6
15. 107 7 5	60	*14 0 0	14	70 0 0	10 0 0	13 0 0
133 1 2	80	13 1 1 $\frac{1}{3}$	24	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 10 0
97 9 4	*24	9 7 0	8	38 0 0	4 10 0	6 0 0
98 3 0	70	10 11 1 $\frac{1}{3}$	100	125 0 0	15 0 0	21 5 0
109 4 5 $\frac{1}{3}$	22	13 1 1 $\frac{1}{3}$	21	150 0 0	10 19 0	20 5 0
20. 126 3 1 $\frac{1}{3}$	36	9 5 6	63	130 0 0	30 0 0	45 0 0
71 12 0	36	12 4 0	12	20 0 0	13 15 6	21 3 6
25. 10 10 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	30	10 0 0	15	80 0 0	9 0 0	12 16 0
126 6 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	10 8 10 $\frac{2}{3}$	50	200 0 0	40 0 0	50 0 0
151 0 0	35	32 18 0	80	55 0 0	56 0 0	100 0 0
67 15 8	*30	*14 0 0	12			24 10 5
105 13 4	22	18 13 1 $\frac{1}{3}$	18	128 8 10 $\frac{2}{3}$	13 0 0	21 12 0
102 11 3	*10	12 12 0	5	30 0 0	8 10 0	11 0 0
107 6 8	36	15 2 0	25	260 0 0	11 6 0	23 6 0
130 10 0	*60	18 11 1 $\frac{1}{3}$	40	200 0 0		43 0 0
87 5 0	30	16 14 1 $\frac{1}{3}$	16	20 0 0	16 10 0	18 6 0
60 12 0	30	*14 0 0	6	25 0 0	2 0 0	3 5 0
116 17 1 $\frac{1}{3}$	25	18 6 7 $\frac{2}{3}$	26	158 7 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	23 19 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	46 9 9 $\frac{1}{4}$
136 18 0	50	21 11 1 $\frac{1}{3}$	42	300 0 0	26 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	41 0 0
35. 129 1 1 $\frac{1}{3}$	40	26 12 7	88	225 11 1 $\frac{1}{3}$	36 0 0	63 0 0
129 11 1 $\frac{1}{3}$	30	10 4 0	43		40 0 0	40 0 0
94 0 0	100	13 5 0	30	200 0 0	17 0 0	25 3 9
87 6 8	32	*14 0 0	40	150 0 0	7 10 0	15 0 0
*70 0 0	20	9 0 0	7	20 0 0	3 0 0	4 0 0
40. 117 12 0	53	13 1 1 $\frac{1}{3}$	91	469 0 0	12 0 0	34 18 0

STATISTICAL TABLE of the

		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.			7.
Parish.	Vol. Page.	Popu- lation 1755.	Popu- lation 1790. 1797.	In- crease.	De- crease.	Valued rent, Scotch money.			Real Rent Ster- ling mo- ney.	
						L.	s.	d.	L.	
	Huntly - XI. 467	1900	3600	1700	—	3070	0	0	1700	
	Insch - XVII. 482	995	900	—	95	2168	13	4	1200	
	Inverury - VII. 331	730	732	2	—	1634	0	0	800	
	Keig - XI. 455	499	475	—	24	1575	11	4	* 820	
45.	Keithhall - II. 527	1111	838	—	273	2907	15	8	1240	
	Kemnay - XII. 199	643	611	—	32	1604	0	0	700	
	Kildrummie XVIII. 411	562	426	—	136	1051	13	4	* 550	
	Kincardine O'Niel VI. 55	1706	2075	369	—	3675	13	4	1870	
	King Edward XI. 398	1352	1577	225	—	4099	6	8	2280	
50.	Kinnellar - III. 496	398	342	—	56	920	15	6	900	
	Kinnethmont XIII. 66	791	830	39	—	1817	13	4	1000	
	Kintore - XIII. 81	973	812	—	161	1637	17	2	* 860	
	Leochel, inclu- ding Cushnie } VI. 212	1286	642	—	644	1598	13	4	* 830	
	Leslie - VIII. 511	319	418	99	—	1566	6	8	700	
55.	Logie Buchan IV. 421	575	509	—	66	3751	13	4	1500	
	Longside - XV. 282	1979	1792	—	187	4592	11	0	2100	
	Lonmay - XVI. 631	1674	1650	—	24	3367	11	6	2200	
	Lumphanan VI. 382	682	621	—	61	2082	6	8	1000	
	Machar, New VI. 465	1191	1030	—	161	2454	0	0	1500	
60.	Meldrum, Old XIII. 153	1603	1490	—	113	1850	0	0	* 970	
	Methlick - IV. 320	1385	1035	—	350	2700	0	0	* 1420	
	Midmarr - II. 516	979	945	—	34	2387	0	0	1100	
	Montquhitter VI. 121	997	1500	503	—	2275	10	10	1400	
	Monymusk III. 66	1005	1130	125	—	2543	0	0	1310	
65.	Newhills - VI. 34	959	1181	222	—	1313	6	8	3000	
	Oyne - XV. 105	643	630	—	13	2300	13	4	1000	
	Peterculter XVI. 358	755	1002	247	—	2613	13	4	1200	
	Peterhead - XVI. 541	2487	4100	1613	—	4525	11	8	3000	
	Pitliso - V. 96	1224	1300	76	—	2400	0	0	1240	
70.	Premnay - XVI. 637	448	450	2	—	1878	0	0	1000	
	Rathen - VI. 15	1527	1730	203	—	3520	0	0	2000	
	Rayne - XV. 110	1131	1173	42	—	2543	13	4	1300	
	Rhynie and Effey XIX. 289	836	681	—	155	1702	19	9	700	
	Skene - IV. 57	1251	1233	—	18	2500	6	8	* 1320	
75.	Slains - V. 275	1286	1117	—	169	2834	0	0	1600	
	Strathdon - XIII. 171	1750	1524	—	226	3039	1	6	1600	
	Strichen - VII. 416	1158	1400	242	—	1875	0	0	* 980	
	Tarland - VI. 222	1300	1050	—	250	3035	10	2	1300	
	Tarvas - V. 309	2346	1690	—	656	4880	0	0	2000	
80.	Tillynefsle - IV. 27	335	412	77	—	1010	13	4	430	
	Tough - VIII. 261	570	560	—	10	1670	14	0	600	
	Towie - IV. 547	656	550	—	106	1475	7	2	1000	
	Turreff - XVII. 394	1897	2029	132	—	5159	2	10	2800	
	Tyrrie - VI. 138	596	949	353	—	1530	0	0	1000	
85.	Udny - IV. 156	1352	1137	—	185	5831	0	0	2200	
		16836	122921	16904	10819					
			116836	10819						
			6085	6085						
Increase,										
New Aberdeen Salmon-fishings,						433	6	8	940	
Kirklands,						2216	13	4	* 1160	

COUNTY of ABERDEEN, by PARISHES.

8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.
Minister's Stipend, &c. the grain con- verted.	No. of Scho- lars.	Total income of the School- master.	Num- ber of Poor.	Capital stock of the Poor's Funds.	Annual Col- lections.	Total annual income of the Poor, includ- ing collec- tions.
L. s. d.		L. s. d.		L. s. d.	L. s. d.	L. s. d.
77 1 8	120	40 0 0	50	238 10 6	20 0 0	30 14 2
121 5 0	15	7 15 0	8	120 0 0	11 10 0	19 5 0
85 4 8	40	18 6 8	16	60 0 0	14 0 0	14 0 0
84 10 8	30	*14 0 0	10	70 0 0	6 10 0	10 0 0
127 2 5 ¹ / ₃	*28	*14 0 0	30	50 0 0	16 0 0	18 5 0
68 5 8	*20	8 0 8	24	160 0 0	11 0 0	18 0 0
75 18 2	20	*14 0 0	8		4 0 0	4 0 0
126 13 8	62	10 0 0	33	40 0 0	10 0 0	12 0 0
130 10 0	30	22 0 0	37	380 0 0	18 0 0	42 15 0
73 7 9 ¹ / ₃	30	*14 0 0	4	60 0 0	5 0 0	8 0 0
130 15 1 ¹ / ₃	25	12 7 9 ¹ / ₃	14	50 0 0	18 4 0	20 14 0
114 10 6	30	10 12 0	17	140 0 0	15 15 0	20 5 0
*90 0 0	*20	11 1 1 ¹ / ₃	22	95 11 1 ¹ / ₃	8 0 0	14 2 0
82 8 6	20	*14 0 0	5	140 0 0	6 0 0	11 16 0
118 0 8	25	14 10 0	6		12 0 0	13 10 0
123 8 0	30	14 7 6	40	130 0 0	17 8 5	26 6 5
141 19 4	25	12 16 8	20	20 0 0	28 0 0	28 0 0
106 3 0	30	*14 0 0	10	25 0 0	4 10 0	4 10 0
107 4 0	40	14 15 7 ¹ / ₃	15	75 0 0	17 0 0	20 7 6
121 12 0	40	30 0 0	38		40 0 0	40 0 0
67 13 2	20	*14 0 0	36	388 6 8	20 0 0	36 0 0
134 11 4	25	10 10 0	20	217 0 0	14 0 0	24 17 0
108 0 0	50	20 11 1 ¹ / ₃	33	200 0 0	37 18 0	55 0 0
96 0 0	30	20 0 0	40	778 0 0		45 19 0
140 4 8 ¹ / ₂	30	15 6 8	24	80 0 0	18 0 0	25 0 0
73 11 0	*20	11 2 6	9	20 0 0	6 10 0	7 10 0
119 16 0	60	12 0 10	30	140 0 0	24 0 0	32 0 0
122 6 8	287	35 0 0	80	90 0 0	66 0 0	70 0 0
123 2 4	30	20 0 0	36	100 0 0	22 0 0	27 0 0
100 0 0	*15	*14 0 0	*10			*8 10 0
93 5 10 ² / ₃	40	12 0 0	51	150 0 0	24 0 0	33 10 0
73 4 0	*40	*14 0 0	20	90 0 0	16 0 0	20 0 0
91 4 10 ² / ₃	*20	*14 0 0	*15	15 0 0	8 0 0	12 0 0
115 7 0	30	15 6 8	22	130 0 0	15 18 5	27 5 5
114 10 8	40	13 12 0	26		18 4 0	20 0 0
108 0 0	100	11 19 0	40	100 0 0	10 0 0	20 0 0
70 16 0	*46	*14 0 0	30	140 0 0	24 0 0	30 0 0
127 18 0	30	*14 0 0	20	22 0 0	8 0 0	9 0 0
112 4 3	50	12 10 0	44	100 0 0	30 3 2	45 0 5
96 1 8	15	12 16 8	6	40 0 0	4 10 0	6 10 0
93 9 1	20	11 8 10 ¹ / ₃	5	54 0 0	6 0 0	8 14 0
75 0 0	30	*14 0 0	17	100 0 0	7 0 0	13 10 0
110 0 0	30	11 10 0	30	120 0 0	33 1 8	58 6 0
87 10 8	26	14 11 0	30	57 10 0	14 10 2	15 15 3
126 17 5	35	30 2 0	22	50 0 0	24 0 0	34 0 0

Observations on the preceding Table.

The total of the first column is 85 parishes or districts, having 89 Ministers: The parish of Cushnie having been lately annexed to that of Leochel, the number is now reduced to 84 districts, and 88 Ministers.

The total of the second column, or population in 1755, 116,836

The total of the third column, or population in 1790-7, 122,921

Increase, - - - 6,085

The increase on the whole, column fourth, 16,904

The decrease on the whole, column fifth, 10,819

Increase, 6,085

It is here to be observed, that though part of the parishes of Cairny and Cabrach, lies in Banff-shire, and part of the parish of Drumoak, in the county of Kincardine, the whole population of each of these parishes is set down in the Table, from the difficulty of apportioning the number of inhabitants to each respective county, therefore the real population of the county of Aberdeen is somewhat less than above stated.

The increase has almost exclusively taken place in Aberdeen, Peterhead, Huntly, Frazerburgh, and the other towns, whilst it would appear, that the population of most of the country parishes has diminished. The number of inhabitants of the towns is about 27,833, viz.

Aberdeen, New Town, 16120; Old Town, 1713; } 20,067
Gilcomstone, 2234; - Total, }

Peterhead, - - - 2550

Huntly, about - - - 1700

Frazerburgh, - - - 1000

Old Meldrum, - - - 783

Turreff, - - - 701

Cuminstown, - - - 404

Inverury, (a royal borough), about - - - 400

Kintore, (ditto), - - - 228

Total in towns, - - - 27833

The valuation or valued rent of the county of Aberdeen, column sixth, as entered in the records of the Court of Exchequer, is L. 235,665 : 8 11 Scotch, or L. 19,638 : 15 : 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ Sterling.

Column

Column 7th. The real rent of the parishes that have sent returns being in the proportion of L. 52, 10 s. Sterling to each L. 100 Scotch of valued rent; the real rent of the other parishes is therefore computed in the same proportion, and marked with an asterisk. The rent of the parishes of Old Machar and Newhills, districts particularly circumstanced, is returned at L. 13,500 Sterling. Proceeding on these principles, it appears, that the total land rent of the county, including that of the salmon-fishings on Dee, estimated at L. 940, amounts to

	L. 133,632
Add Don fishings,	1500
Foveran, Peterhead, and Ellon fishings,	400
Granite quarries at Grandholm,	80
Millstone quarries in Aberdour parish,	40
Houses in Aberdeen,	15,500
Houses in the other towns and villages,	4000
	L. 155,152

This rent, considerable as it is, compared with the old valuation, it is hoped will fall far short of the sum which this extensive and industrious county will reach in a short period: and it is to be observed, that in some parishes, the grain or victual-rent, has been stated at the rate of only 10 s. the boll, a sum below the actual conversion.

Column 8th. The total income of the Clergy in this county, converting the bear and barley, at 15 s.; the oats and oatmeal, at 12 s.; and the malt, at 17 s. 6 d. the boll; and computing moderately the stipends of three parishes that made no returns, amounts to L. 9173 : 8 : 5; which divided by 88, the number of Ministers, gives an average of L. 104, 5 s. to each Clergyman. In this is included the value of the glebes, amounting, on an average, to L. 6, 10 s. each; and the allowance for communion-elements, which varies from L. 1 : 6 : 8 to L. 10, and averages L. 4, 12 s.

The ecclesiastical benefice of the parish of Newhills, in this county, is of a singular description: George Davidson of Pettans, a burgher of Aberdeen, having, in 1663, mortified the lands of Capelhills, for the maintenance of the Minister of that parish. These lands, consisting of 563 acres, of arable, pasture, and moor ground, having a privilege of mofs and pasturage, worth altogether at present L. 140 *per annum*, is possessed by the Minister of Newhills for the time being, and constitutes the whole of his living, except an allowance of about L. 7 for communion-elements.

Column 9th. The proportion of scholars to the whole inhabitants of the parishes that have made returns, being nearly as 1 to 30, the number is computed after that proportion in the other parishes; and the total number

of scholars in Aberdeenshire, exclusive of Old and New Aberdeen parishes, will be found to amount to 2941.

Column 10th. The total income of the parochial schoolmasters of Aberdeenshire, (Old and New Aberdeen not included), computing each of the deficient parishes at L. 14, amounts to L. 1124:2:9, or nearly L. 15 each. The emoluments of the parochial schoolmasters arise from, 1st, The legal salary, varying from L. 2, 10 s. to L. 12, average L. 6, 14. 1d. An allowance for acting as session-clerk and precentor, with fees for making entries in, and extracts from, the parish registers and session records. And, 3dly, The fees for teaching, which are extremely moderate, being only from 1 s. 6 d. to 2 s. a quarter, for each scholar, taught English and writing; the average of the two last is L. 8, 15 s. It cannot fail of being observed, that their whole emoluments amount to a sum too small to enable the schoolmasters to live with any degree of satisfaction or comfort.

Column 11th. The number of poor in the country parishes in Aberdeenshire, is 2318; in New Aberdeen, 481; and in Old Aberdeen, 240; in all, 3039: being in the proportion of about 1 in every 40 of the inhabitants.

The total of column 12th, being the capital of the poor's funds, amounts, in the country parishes, to L. 9866:5:6; and in Old Aberdeen, to L. 1265; making in all L. 11,131:5:6.

Column 13th. The collections in 76 country parishes, amounts to L. 1288, 13 s.; and in Old Aberdeen, to L. 102, 12 s.: in all L. 1391, 5 s.; and this sum does not include the collections in New Aberdeen, and in the other country parishes, which must be in proportion.

Column 14th. The total income of the poor in this county, is L. 3062, 6 s. 7½ d.; making an average of about L. 1 for each pauper, which is certainly maintaining the poor at a very small expence. The profits of the pall or mort-cloth are included in this column.

These additional remarks will suffice on the parochial Tables.

COUNTY COMPUTATIONS.

We shall now proceed to the articles which it is proposed to consider, not by parishes, but by counties.

I. *State of Property.*

A particular account was obtained of the state of the property in this county, the number of proprietors, and the extent of property held by each; but it was not thought necessary to enter into the detail of those particulars,

lars, many proprietors not wishing to have information of that nature disclosed to the public. It is therefore proposed to confine the following statement to general particulars.

The following is a general view of the state of property in Aberdeen-shire.

Classes.	Nature of each Class.	No. of Proprietors in each class.	Total of their valuation in Scotch money.			Total in Sterling money.
			L.	s.	d.	L.
Class 1.	Above L. 2000 Scotch of valued rent, which in this county is equal to L. 1133, 6 s. 8 d. Sterling. (The largest estate is rated at L. 21,566:15:11 Scotch, or L. 12,220 Sterling; and has lately been augmented by new purchases,) - - -	27	121,039	3	2 ³ / ₁₀	68,680
2.	From L. 2000 to L. 1000 Scotch, or from L. 1133, 6 s. 8 d. to L. 566:13:4 Sterling, - - -	30	40,575	9	3	23,000
3.	From L. 1000 to L. 400 Scotch, or from L. 566, 13 s. 4 d. to L. 226, 13 s. 4 d. Sterling, - - -	72	45,268	8	5 ⁶ / ₁₀	25,700
4.	From L. 400 to L. 200 Scotch, or from L. 226, 13 s. 4 d. to L. 113:6:8 Sterling, - - -	42	12,223	0	2	6,950
5.	From L. 200 to L. 100 Scotch, or from L. 113, 6 s. 8 d. to L. 56:13:4 Sterling, - - -	31	4,218	14	11 ² / ₁₀	2,300
6.	Under L. 100 Scotch, or L. 56:13:4 Sterling, - - -	45	3,535	17	10 ² / ₁₀	2,000
7.	Hospital and kirk lands, or lands belonging to corporations; - - -		8,804	15	0	5,000
	Total,	247	235,665	8	11	133,630

It is proper to remark, that the above sum of L. 133,630 is gross rent, from which there are a variety of heavy deductions; as, 1. The expence of collection; 2. The risk of loss from the insolvency of tenants; 3. The expence of supporting the tenants in bad seasons, when, instead of receiving rent, it is often

often necessary to maintain the small farmers and their families; 4. Ecclesiastical expences, not only the Ministers stipend, and the sum allowed for communion-elements, but also the expence of building and keeping in repair the church and manse, and the offices connected therewith, which, like all other public buildings, are twice as expensive as any other; 5. The salary of the schoolmaster, and the expence of repairing his house; lastly, The land-tax, house, and window tax, and other impositions of a public nature, as that for raising men, &c. All these charges being deducted, it is probable that the real free rent to the proprietors, would not much exceed two-thirds of the gross rent above mentioned, or L. 89,080; and the other one-third, or L. 44,550, may be the amount of the deductions. Both together make 3s. 8½d. of average rent, *per English acre*, over the whole county.

The particulars of the seventh class, or lands belonging to corporations, it may be proper to detail more fully.

	Scotch money.
Town of Aberdeen,	L. 2900 1 2
Bishoprick of Aberdeen,	1666 13 4
Merchant Maiden Hospital, Edinburgh,	1132 5 0
King's College, Aberdeen,	944 19 4
Gordon's Hospital, Aberdeen,	613 13 4
Town of Old Aberdeen,	469 8 10
Parsonage of Turreff,	300 0 0
Shipmasters of Aberdeen,	266 13 4
Dyers of Aberdeen,	152 6 8
Archbishoprick of St Andrews,	150 0 0
Parsonage of Auchterless,	100 0 0
Feuers of Turreff,	100 0 0
Tailors of Aberdeen,	8 14 0
	L. 8804 15 0

Above L. 66,000 Scotch of valued rent, or property equal to L. 36,850 in Sterling money of real rent, is subject to the strict fetters of a Scotch entail. It is supposed, that about one half of the rents of the county belong to persons who do not reside in it, and are spent in other parts of the kingdom.

II. Mode of Occupation.

Without an actual survey, it is evident that this can only be the subject of rather loose and general computation, the returns from the parishes in general having been extremely imperfect. It is probable, however, from the

the best calculations that it is possible to make, on such data as could be procured, that the following is pretty near the truth.

	Scotch Acres.	English Acres.
1. In-field, or land in complete cultivation, and always under crops of grain, green crops, or artificial grass,	90,000	112,500
2. Out-field, or land only occasionally tilled, and then left ley; land of this description in tillage, suppose 100,000 acres, ley 100,000 also. Total,	200,000	250,000
3. Pasture land never tilled, but capable of improvement,	74,000	92,500
4. Waste lands, commonly called moor and moss, -	153,000	191,300
5. Natural woods, and forests, -	30,000	37,500
6. Plantations, -	28,000	35,000
Total,	575,000	718,800

From this general view of the manner in which the lands in Aberdeenshire is employed, it will appear, what immense scope there is for improvement. Perhaps, of the whole, the land that is planted, or under natural wood, together with, perhaps, one half of the in-field land, amounting to about 100,000 Scotch acres, or 120,000 English, is all that has nearly reached its proper value or height of produce. When the land is thoroughly cultivated, in the manner which it is hoped will take place, what additional wealth, of the best and most permanent nature, may not be expected?

III. Live-Stock.

The information respecting this important particular is more minute than could have well been expected. There are returns from 40 parishes in the county, of the number of horses, cattle, and sheep in each. Of these, there are four parishes, namely, Birse, Crathie, Glenmuick, and Strathdon, which are particularly circumstanced, having more than the usual proportion of live-stock; it is proposed therefore, in the following account, to keep them distinct, and afterwards to state the stock in the 36 other parishes which have sent returns; and then to estimate the parishes whence there are no return, in the same proportion with those returned, according to their respective valuations. The live-stock of the county of Aberdeen, on these principles, may be then stated in the following manner:

State

State of the Live-Stock of the County of Aberdeen.

Districts.	Valuation.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.
	L. s. d.			
1. Parishes of Birse, Crathie, Glenmuick, and Strathdon,	13,111 3 2	2,588	7,234	42,827
2. The stock in 36 other parishes which have sent returns,	87,041 11 1	7,380	32,010	47,464
3. Stock in the remaining parishes when no returns have been made, in the same proportion as No. 2.	135,512 14 8	11,480	49,830	73,880
Total,	235,665 8 11	21,448	89,074	164,171

That is, at the rate of 33 English acres *per* horse; 3 ditto *per* head of cattle; $4\frac{1}{2}$ ditto *per* sheep.

The value of the stock may be thus stated:

21,448 Horses, of all ages, at L. 6,	-	-	L. 128,688	0	0
89,074 Cattle, young and old, at L. 3, 10 s.	-	-	311,759	0	0
164,171 Sheep, at 5 s.	-	-	41,042	15	0
Hogs, (which are pretty numerous), deer, goats, rabbits, poultry, pigeons, &c.	-	-	40,000	0	0
Total,	-	-	L. 521,489	15	0

Of these, it is supposed, that 20,000 head of cattle, and 26,000 sheep, are annually sold out of the county, and it is well known, considerable quantities of salted pork are exported.

This table must satisfy every one of the great advantage that might be derived from the improvement of live-stock. Though there are considerable numbers of valuable animals of the different sorts above mentioned, yet the average price, young and old included, cannot with justice be stated at more than the small sums above mentioned. Whereas, by attending to the improvement of the different breeds, the same pasture might feed animals of much superior value.

IV. Agricultural Produce.

We shall next proceed to give a general view of the profit derived from the cultivation of the soil, in the manner above specified, and from the stock above enumerated.

Table

Table of Agricultural Produce.

CROPS.	No. of Sc. Acres un- der each.	Produce per Acre. BOLLS.	Price per Boll. L. S. D.	Total Price per Acre. L. S. D.	Total produce. BOLLS	Total value. L. S. D.
Oats, -	144,000	4	0 12 0	2 8 0	576,000	345,600 0 0
Barley and bear, or big, }	34,900	5	0 15 0	3 15 0	174,500	130,875 0 0
Wheat, -	100	7	1 2 0	7 14 0	700	770 0 0
Beans, }	500	6	0 10 0	3 0 0	3,000	1,500 0 0
Peas, }						
Potatoes, -	4,000	12	0 8 0	4 16 0	48,000	19,200 0 0
Flax, -	500	—	—	16 0 0	—	8,000 0 0
Turnips, -	2,000	—	—	6 0 0	—	12,000 0 0
Meadow hay, or natural grafs, }	4,000	STONES.	per STONE.		STONES	
Sown grafs, }		150	0 0 6	3 15 0	600,000	15,000 0 0
Pasture for 21,448 horses, at L. 2 each,				L. 42,896		
89,074 head of cattle, at 20 s. each,				89,074		
164,171 sheep, at 2 s. each,				16,417		
for swine, goats, deer, &c.				10,000		
Annual value of natural woods and plantations,						3,000 0 0
Total,						694,332 0 0

This produce is in proportion to the land rent as five to one. Five rents is certainly a larger proportion than is usually expected by the tenant; but it is to be considered, that a larger profit is essential for a very small farmer, than for a large one; and that a less proportion of the produce of arable land, can be paid from poor land, than from rich. Where farms are very small, as is too much the case in the northern parts of Scotland, namely, from L. 5 to L. 10 *per annum*, in common years, the farmer requires almost the whole produce to maintain his family, and to defray the expences of cultivation. Even on a farm of L. 20 *per annum*, five rents will do little more. But when, in addition to the smallness of the farm, the produce *per acre* is inconsiderable, which, from the preceding statement, there is every reason to believe, it is not to be wondered at, that so large a portion of the produce should be necessary for the occupier.

These calculations, however, furnish, on the whole, no unpromising prospect, both to the proprietors of this county, and to the public. It would appear, that the produce of Aberdeenshire, is only at the rate of about 24 s. *per Scotch acre*, or 19 s. *per English acre*; which, however considerable, compared

compared to what it yielded formerly, yet might soon be doubled, if not tripled, by promoting useful improvements, and by converting the farms, to such a reasonable size, as would enable the farmers to live more comfortably themselves, to pay better rents to their landlords, and to raise a greater produce for the public.

V. *Productions of Manufactures and Commerce.*

It does not seem necessary, in the present sketch, to enter with minuteness into the commercial and manufacturing state of this county, as those are subjects which will be more fully considered, when the general state of the kingdom at large, in regard to those two important particulars, is discussed; and, owing to various circumstances, I have not been able to collect the necessary facts, for forming any exact estimate. I calculate, however, on very general grounds, that both may produce about L. 200,000 *per annum*. The stocking manufacture alone, in the neighbourhood of Aberdeen, is supposed to extend to L. 103,000 annually, for hose or stockings exported; a part of which, however, is manufactured in the shire of Kincardine.

VI. *Mines, Fisheries, and Kelp.*

These sources of wealth, being principally of a local nature, are on that account joined together, under one head.

With regard to mines, little wealth of that description has hitherto been found in Aberdeenshire. The most valuable article arises from the granite quarries in the vicinity of Aberdeen; 12,000 tons of that durable stone are annually exported to London, valued at 14s. the ton, or L. 8400.

There are millstone quarries in Aberdour parish, rented at L. 40; the produce may be stated at L. 400. Limestone is found in some parts of this county; Glenbucket parish contains inexhaustible stores of that valuable mineral. About 55,000 bolls of lime are annually burnt in Old Machar and Old Deer parishes, and may be valued at L. 2750. A quarry of blue slate is wrought in Culsalmond parish, though not to any extent; and a vein of manganese in Old Machar. The total produce of mines and minerals may be stated at L. 11,600.

The Dee and the Don, and the other rivers of Aberdeenshire, have long been celebrated for the excellence of the salmon they produce. The rent of those fishings amount to about L. 2480 *per annum*, and the produce to L. 10,000.

Considerable fisheries are also carried on, on the sea-coast of Aberdeenshire, and by fishing vessels from the ports of that county, in particular from

Peterhead

Peterhead and Frazerburgh. Some kelp is also made on the coast; the value of these two last articles may be stated at L. 9000; there being about 60 boats, &c. employed, the produce of whose industry must be considerable*.

Consequently, the whole produce of mines, fisheries, and kelp, will, on a moderate computation, be found to amount to L. 30,600.

We shall now proceed to give a general view of this interesting district.

GENERAL VIEW OF THE STATE OF THE COUNTY OF ABERDEEN, in 1798.

Extent in square miles,	-	-	-	1170
In Scotch acres,	-	-	-	575,000
In English acres, statute measure,	-	-	-	718,800
In ditto arable,	-	-	362,500	
Pasture,	-	-	92,500	
Moor and moss,	-	-	191,300	
Natural woods,	-	-	37,500	
Plantations,	-	-	35,000	
				718,800
Horses, number of,	-	-	-	21,448
Cattle, ditto,	-	-	-	89,074
Sheep, ditto,	-	-	-	164,171
Value of live-stock,	-	-	L. 521,849	0 0
Value of agricultural produce,	-	-	694,332	0 0
Value of manufacturing and commercial produce,				
supposed,	-	-	200,000	0 0
Value of produce of mines, fisheries, and kelp,	-	-	30,600	0 0
Number of proprietors,	-	-	-	247
Valued rent, Scotch money,	-	-	L. 235,665	8 11
Ditto in Sterling money,	-	-	19,638	15 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Real land rent in Sterling money,	-	-	133,632	0 0
Whereof belonging to individuals,	-	-	128,632	0 0
To corporations or the Crown,	-	-	5,000	0 0
Real rent of entailed estates,	-	-	36,850	0 0
Of unentailed ditto,	-	-	91,782	0 0
Real rents spent in the county,	-	-	73,632	0 0
Ditto spent out of it,	-	-	60,000	0 0
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* In the river Ythan, is a remarkable pearl-fishing. In 1762 and 1763 single pearls sold for 8 s. and 10 s.; one at L. 2, and another at L. 3.

Number of inhabitants in 1755,	116,836
Ditto in 1790-1797,	122,921
Increase in the space of 40 years,	6,085
Number of fighting men,	24,584
Population in towns,	27,833
In the country,	95,088
Number of inhabitants to each square mile,	105
English acres to each inhabitant,	58
Ministers stipends, with the value of their glebes, and the amount of communion-elements,	L. 9,173 0 0
Value of their glebes,	550 0 0
Allowance for communion-elements,	300 0 0
Average income of each minister, including their glebes, and allowance for communion-elements,	104 5 0
Average income, exclusive thereof,	93 3 0
Number of scholars at the parochial schools,	2941
Schoolmasters salaries,	L. 560 0 0
Their casual emoluments, as precentors, &c.	664 0 0
Total income of schoolmasters,	1224 0 0
Average income of each schoolmaster,	15 0 0
Number of poor,	3,039
Capital stock of poor's funds,	L. 11,131 0 0
Annual voluntary contributions for the poor, about,	2,000 0 0
Total annual income of the poor,	3,062 0 0
Average for each pauper,	1 0 0

CONCLUSION.

There is nothing which can give an intelligent and contemplative mind, more real satisfaction, than to see the state of an interesting district thus analysed. It is only by means of such statements, that any idea can be formed, of the real circumstances of a country, and consequently of the means of improving it. It certainly would be desirable, to have the information above sketched out, ascertained with minuteness and accuracy, but that could not be expected, at the first attempt of a private individual, carried on by his own personal exertions, and who principally relied on the zeal of those to whom he addressed himself for information. It will scarcely be credited, in future times, that such an undertaking could be completed under such a disadvantage; and those fortunate individuals, by whose industry and public spirit the Work was accomplished, in addition to the satisfaction which they must derive from their own minds, will have their memories justly celebrated by their grateful posterity.

It may be proper also to inform the reader, that the preceding Tables respecting the state of Aberdeenshire, were rendered more perfect than could have been expected, from the deficiency in several of the original returns, in consequence of some special queries having been circulated for that purpose, amongst the clergy of that county, in December 1796, to which 67 answers were received; and from them the Tables of population, rent, &c. were corrected. Some differences which will appear between the numbers in those Tables and in the Statistical volumes, may be attributed to the different periods at which the calculations were made.

Since the above was written, it appears, from "A General View of the State of Portugal," by James Murphy, printed in London, in one volume quarto, anno 1798, that inquiries, both of a Statistical and Agricultural nature, have been carried on in that kingdom, in consequence of an institution entitled, The Royal Academy of Lisbon. In particular, it would seem, that a number of premiums were offered and adjudged by that Academy, as far back as the year 1783, for physical and economical descriptions of any district or considerable territory, either in Portugal or its transmarine dominions*; and that a number of queries were circulated amongst the farmers, in 1787, on this judicious principle, that no system for the improvement of the country could with safety be adopted, without a previous examination into the actual state of the nation, in regard to population, industry, natural productions, commerce, public revenue, and national expenditure†.

It is not stated how far this plan has succeeded, though it has been carried on for several years; but it would appear, that no expence was spared to accomplish it, and that it received the full support and protection of Government. It is the more creditable therefore for this country, that such inquiries have been carried on so successfully, by the exertions of individuals.

* See Murphy, p. 66.

† Ibid, p. 75.

STATISTICAL ACCOUNT

OF

SCOTLAND.

PART XX.

NUMBER I.

PARISH OF LIVINGSTONE.

(COUNTY OF LINLITHGOW, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE, PRESBYTERY OF LINLITHGOW.)

By JAMES GRAY.

Situation.

THE parish of Livingstone, which was a parsonage belonging to the abbey of Holyroodhouse, is situated within the county and presbytery of Linlithgow, and synod of Lothian and Tweeddale. It is bounded on the east by the parishes of Uphall and Mid-Calder; on the south by the parishes of Mid and West Calder, or by the waters of Al-

mond and Breich; on the west by the parish of Whitburn, which was formerly a part of the parish of Livingstone, but disjoined and erected into a separate parish about the year 1730; and on the north by the parishes of Bathgate and Uphall.

Extent.—The figure of the parish has some resemblance to that of a sand-glass, being betwixt 4 and 5 miles in length from east to west, about a mile and a half in breadth at each end, and intersected in the middle to about half a mile. It contains near 4000 acres, all arable, and inclosed to a mere trifle.

Soil.—The soil is various, but in general inclined to clay, and in many places the bottom is tilly, which occasions a wetness difficult to remedy. This defect, however, is in some measure atoned for, by various strata of lime, coal, iron-stone, free-stone, &c.—And notwithstanding the dampness, the air is certainly salubrious, as there are no diseases which are peculiar to this spot; on the contrary, it has exhibited many instances of extreme longevity.

Proprietors.—The property of this parish is divided amongst 5 heritors, *viz.* Sir William Augustus Cunyng-hame of Livingstone, the patron, George Moncrieff, Esq; of Blackburn, John Hamilton, Esq; of Pencaitland, Thomas Shairp, Esq; of Houstoun, and William Honyman, Esq; of Græmsay, now Lord Armadale, one of the Senators of the College of Justice.—Sir William is proprietor of about two-thirds of the parish, and he and Mr Moncrieff are the only residing heritors.—The valued rent is something above L. 3000 Scotch; and the real rent, by recent and expensive improvements, is near L. 3000 Sterling.

Population.

Population.—In 1755 the population of this parish is stated at 598; about 25 years ago it was considerably diminished by the dismissal of a number of small tenants, and letting their possessions in larger farms to others; but this loss was in some degree compensated, by an acquisition of industry and spirit for improvement, and the population is again upon the increase. At the period last above mentioned, the inhabitants of the parish, including all ages, were reduced to about 300, at present they are considerably above 400. The following table of baptisms and burials, for a period of 7 years, prior to the 1794, affords a comfortable proof of this fact.

Years.	Baptisms.			Burials.	Marriages
	Males.	Females.	Total.		
1787	6	3	9	6	10
1788	12	12	24	7	9
1789	12	8	20	5	1
1790	2	4	6	8	6
1791	4	6	10	12	1
1792	8	6	14	12	6
1793	5	14	19	12	5
	49	53	102	62	38

Villages.—There are two villages in this parish, one, the Kirktown of Livingstone, containing about 40 inhabitants; and the other, lately built upon the estate of Blackburn, upon feus from Mr Moncrieff, and which contains near 200 people. But there are no manufactures of any kind carried on in either, excepting that a water-mill, to drive machinery for carding and spinning cotton, has lately been erected at the latter village, which, it is to be hoped, will be of use, by employing at least a part of the inhabitants.

Ecclesiastical State.—The state of religion in this parish is perhaps also improving, for here there are very few seceders, and those, it is believed, are mostly confined to persons in sedentary occupations. People in this situation, having the opportunity of uninterrupted conversation, naturally acquire a taste for polemical disquisition, and, in proportion as they are bewildered, they become conceited and tenacious.

Character of the People.—After what has been said, it is almost unnecessary to add, that the morals of the inhabitants of this parish are in general correct. They have no vices that are peculiar to themselves; though, upon occasions, they refuse not to partake of a cheerful glass, they are by no means addicted to drunkenness. As the public road from Glasgow to Edinburgh passes through the parish, and upon which there is one inn and several tippling houses, drunkenness may sometimes be practised in the parish, but not by its inhabitants.

The degrading servility of the feudal system is here totally eradicated; they approach their superiors with abundance of discretion, but without cringing; for a good deed they are not ashamed to be grateful to their inferiors; and they would forgive an injury from a beggar, which they would resent from a peer.

Church, &c.—The church and manse of Livingstone are delightfully situated, (for the clergy had always some taste even for an earthly paradise), upon a dry mount, half encircled by the water of Almond: They are both modern and neat.

The stipend consists of 16 bolls of barley, 32 bolls of meal, and L. 1060 Scotch in money; which, converting the meal and barley at 16 s. *per* boll, amounts to L. 126 : 14 : 8 Sterling, exclusive of the manse and glebe; so that the living

ving may be reckoned worth L. 150 Sterling a-year, which, considering the extent of the parish, the small number of its inhabitants, and their moderate principles, it is certainly an eligible cure.

The character of the present incumbent has no doubt had its influence in forming that of the people; he is a man equally remarkable for his worth and for his misfortunes; after having lost his wife, he has also been deprived of 5 out of 6 children, who had either arrived at, or near, the age of majority; and he has borne these afflictions with that decent magnanimity, which nothing but the true spirit of Christianity can inspire.

School.—The schoolmaster's salary, independent of his house, school, and other perquisites, is betwixt L. 9 or L. 10 Sterling; 15 merks of which arises from an old mortification; in the remainder the heritors have voluntarily assessed themselves; and for one half of which, by act of Parliament, they are entitled to relief against their tenants; but this relief has wisely and humanely never been demanded. The situation of the place is well adapted for a public school; and it is to be regretted, that one half of the learning possessed by the present schoolmaster is rather more than he has occasion for. The number of children who attend this school is from 20 to 30; and from 30 to 40 are taught in another private school kept in the village of Blackburn.

Poor.—The poor are supported from the collections at the church-doors, and the fees upon marriages, baptisms, and burials, and the interests of an excrescent capital, which, in better times, had arisen from these, and amounted to about L. 10 a-year, which at present is divided amongst five persons.

Agriculture.

Agriculture.—The face of this parish has been entirely changed within these 25 years; and much praise is due to Sir William Cunynghame and Mr Moncrieff, the two residing heritors, for the great expence and unwearied application they have bestowed upon improvements; for, “he who makes two blades of grass to grow where only one grew before, has more merit than the whole race of politicians put together.” Not long prior to the period just now mentioned, it was not uncommon to see 4 horses and 4 oxen dragging and staggering before a large heavy plough, with a very small furrow, at the rate of about a mile in an hour; whilst the gadman or driver, the only active being of the cavalcade, was obliged to traverse at least three miles for their one, in fruitless endeavours to prevent them from falling asleep. Now we see no plough drawn by more than 2 horses, without a driver, and carrying with them a furrow of twice the weight, and going, with apparent ease, three times faster; while, at the same time, these horses are of a better breed, in better order, and maintained at less expence.

This, and several other improvements in agriculture equally important, tho’ formerly not altogether unknown, were principally introduced into this parish by a very intelligent and thorough-bred farmer, brought from Northumberland by Sir William Cunynghame, in the quality of his overseer; but it was not in this station that he acquired either celebrity or imitators.

In that character, every deviation he made from the common practice was looked upon as a wild experiment, which none but a man of fortune could risk. It was not till he became a farmer on his own account, and had a rent to pay like his neighbours, and continuing the same practice, which being uniformly crowned with success, that prejudice gave way

way to demonstration, and these practices became as universally copied as they had formerly been ridiculed.

As the improved practice of husbandry, however, is now so generally known over Scotland, it would be unnecessary here to enter into particulars; there is only one other which we shall beg leave to mention, because it is of the utmost importance, and seems to be little attended to by farmers: This is the mode of increasing the quantity of manure upon a farm, as practised by the person alluded to, simply, by making the stable-yard or site of the dunghill much deeper than ordinary, preventing, as much as possible, any drain from it, and beginning the dunghill every year by laying in 3 or 4 feet deep of the best earth which can be procured upon the farm, from the banks of rivulets, or other places, where it is either totally useless, or lies thicker than necessary; then spreading the dung regularly, as it is made, over this earth, and at the same time allowing the drains from the kitchen, stables, byres, and feeding shades, to run into it. Having lain through the season in this situation, the earth at the bottom, from having absorbed all these juices, will be found very little inferior in quality to the dung above it.

In addition to this, it is well worth the farmer's while, where he has the command of lime, and such earth as has been mentioned, to employ his people as much as possible in making composts of these materials, for a top dressing to his grass lands.

It is unnecessary to inculcate the utility of draining wet lands; besides the ordinary kind of drains, some others have been used here, which, we believe, are not generally known in this country.

The annexed plate exhibits transverse sections of 3 drains, which may be understood without much further explanation.

Cross

Cross Sections of Drains.

Fig. 1.

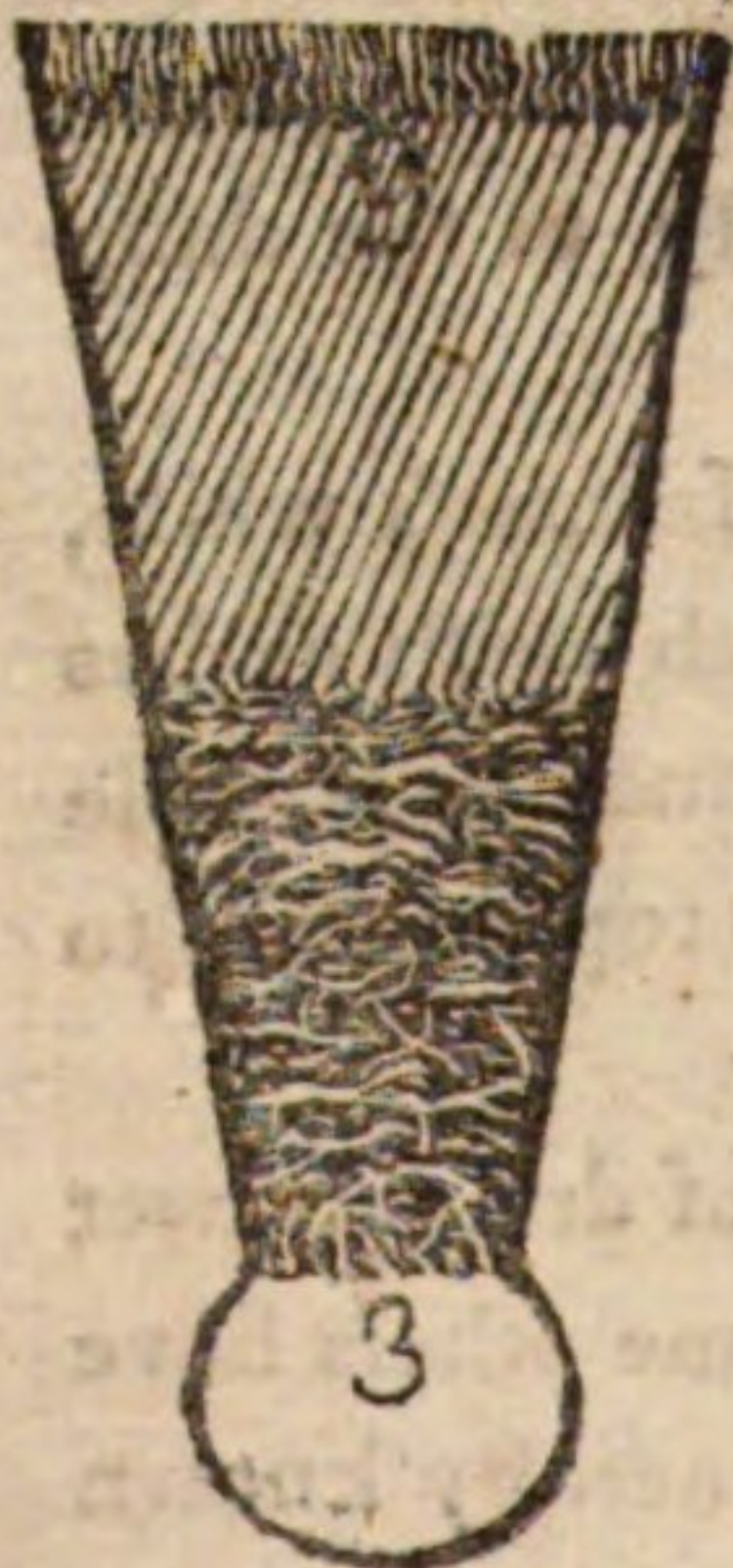


Earth, again covered with the original turf,
6 inches deep.

Brushwood laid longitudinally, and suspend-
ed by cross billets of wood covered with
straw.

The bottom and sides of the drain, to the
height of the cross billets, open.

Fig. 2.



Earth, again covered with the original turf,
8 inches deep.

Brushwood laid longitudinally, and covered
with straw 8 inches deep.

Vacuity 3 inches deep, and 5 or 6 wide.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 3.



Earth 8 inches deep.

Sod, inverted, 6 inches deep.

Vacuity 4 inches deep.

Fig. 1.—From experience we cannot recommend this drain, especially where the land has to undergo the operation of the plough; for it was found that the feet of the cattle went down and deranged the billets which supported the brushwood, and the drain soon became rather worse than useless.

Fig. 2. Is by much a better drain, but far from being unexceptionable. It is made by means of 2 spades, each about 9 or 10 inches deep in the mouth, and sloping in the sides so as to suit the figure. The circular cavity at the bottom is excavated by an instrument similar to a how, with a semicircular mouth. This drain is adapted to a lawn where heavy cattle are debarred. By the turf being replaced, it is scarcely, and but for a short while, perceptible at all; while the brushwood, being supported by the shoulder above the circular cavity, allows the water to filter freely from the top and sides; but in a short time the brushwood must rot, and the whole contents fall down.

Fig. 3. Is liable to none of these objections, and is at the same time by far the cheapest; it furnishes its own mate-

rials, and a good workman may execute 200 yards of it in a day. It can be done no where to purpose but upon grass lands, where the sod has acquired a considerable degree of cohesion by the roots of the grass. The same kind of spades which dug the last drain will dig this. The first spade takes out the sod to any length alongst the drain the operator thinks convenient; that is laid to one side, and the second spade takes out the remainder of the earth, which is laid to the other side; he then pairs with a knife the sides of the sod, so as when replaced, in an inverted position, and pressed down with the foot, the surface may reach till within 3 or 4 inches of the bottom of the drain; the earth is then filled in, and sown with grass-seeds. It must be attended to, that the sods ought not to be replaced in the drain too close together, to prevent the water from the sides and the top from getting down.

The sods are here in the situation of the key-stones of an arch; the more perpendicular pressure they receive they become the firmer. In short, taking all circumstances together, this is the best species of drain we have ever seen or heard of. It was lately imported by Sir William Cunyng-hame himself from Richmond Park, Surry, to Livingstone, and we do not know that it has been executed any where else in Scotland.

A fourth species of drain, or rather aqueduct, and even still more simple than the last, has been tried here with success. A ditch was made at the necessary depth, narrow at the bottom, in which was laid a smooth tree or cylindrical piece of wood, about 20 feet long, 6 inches diameter at the one end, and 5 at the other, having a ring in the thickest end, to which a rope was fastened; after strewing a little sand upon the surface of the tree, the clayey or tilley contents of the ditch were first thrown in, and then the remainder, and trod firmly down; then, by means of the rope, the tree was drawn out till within a foot or two of the
the

the small end, and the same operation repeated. This clay pipe has conducted a small rill of water a considerable way under ground, for more than 20 years, without any sign of failing.

This suggests what would be a great discovery, were it practicable, *viz.* the leading of water into a city, &c. by means of a pipe made of lime-mortar. It is an established fact, that lime-mortar, when immersed in water, acquires a greater degree of hardness and cohesion than when exposed to the air *. There appears to be no difficulty in furnishing a pipe of this kind with both air and cleanging cocks; but it does not so readily occur how a fracture might be repaired.

Before concluding this subject, we cannot help communicating to the public a hint, which, if well founded, merits their attention. It is but too well known, that sheep who have been bred in a moorish country, and fed chiefly upon heath, when brought to a low country, and fed upon a rich pasture, are liable to die of a disease called the rot, a species of dropsy.

It is said that the diuretic quality of parsley, of which sheep are fond, prevents this disease. When a field, therefore, intended for sheep-pasture, is laid down, 2 or 3 pounds to an acre of this seed, added to the other common grass-seeds, would be no hazardous experiment; no feed can be more easily procured. Hares are also said to be fond of parsley, if so, this kind of stock, which affords both food and diversion, may be thus brought to hand without much trouble or expence.

Antiquities.—On this head we beg of our readers, and the patron of this work, a little indulgence.

As

* See Dr Anderson's dissertation on Quicklime as a Cement, in his *Essays on Agriculture and Rural Affairs*.

As to the derivation of the word *Livingstone*, we will not even offer a conjecture. It is certain that Livingstone was for a considerable time the chief seat of a family of that name, from whom were descended the Earls of Linlithgow and Callander, &c.; and it is probable, because it was most common, that the family took their name from the place, and not the place from them.

The house of Livingstone was a fortified castle, surrounded by a wet ditch about 30 feet wide, and a rampart of earth within the ditch; more than three-fourths of this ditch and rampart remained entire till within these 45 years. In old writings it is called the Peel of Livingstone, a name denoting this insular situation.

It is said that the first of this family was ennobled by the title of Lord Livingstone, in the minority of James II. But this is a mistake; for either that first Lord Livingstone was not the representative of this family of Livingstone, or became at that time only what was called a lord of Parliament *, which did not imply the rank of nobility. Very few

* About this period the smaller vassals of the crown, below a certain yearly rent, had obtained a dispensation from personal attendance upon Parliament, on condition of their electing, out of their own body, so many commissioners from each county to represent them, whose expences they paid.

At the commencement of each Parliament these smaller vassals were summoned, by a general writ, to elect their commissioners, whilst the greater proprietors, who were not entitled to that exemption, either got each a particular summons, or attended spontaneously in virtue of their freeholds; hence these latter acquired the appellation of *Lords of Parliament*, to distinguish them from the former. Anciently, the word Dominus, or *Lord*, signified no more than master, governor, or proprietor. At this day we call the master of a house *Landlord*, the proprietor of a great estate *Lord of the Manor*; and, in Scotland, the proprietor of any estate *Laird*, which is merely a corruption of the word Lord.

From the confusion which has arisen by not attending to this distinction, it is probable that the original patents of creation of some of our most ancient noble families may be sought for in vain.

few or no instances had then occurred where personal honours had been bestowed; they were either annexed to lands or to offices, and were transferred with the property, or became extinct with the office. And the barony of Livingstone not only never was erected into a lordship, but we are possessed of an authentic deed, to which the proprietor of that barony was a party, dated in the 1486, 26 years after the death of James II. where he is simply designed "*Gavane de Livingstone of that Ilk.*"

About the beginning of the 16th century this estate became the property of a family of the name of Hamilton. In the 1604 it was again acquired by the family of Linlithgow. In the 1633 it was transferred to that of Murray, a branch of the Elibank family; and in the 1704 it came into the possession of the present proprietors. From the Murrays a small rivulet, which runs past the house of Livingstone, received the name of the Eliburn, which it still retains.

About half a mile north-east of the house of Livingstone stands the farm-house of New-year-field; part of a square tower remained here till within these few years. Tradition says that this was a royal hunting-seat, frequented by the kings of Scotland when they resided at Linlithgow; and that a spring-well adjoining was a specific for the scrofula, when applied by the Royal hand upon a New-year's morning before sun-rise; hence the name of New-year-field.

As it is probable, however, that the King and his patients seldom met here precisely in the nick of time, tradition is silent as to the cures that were performed.

But there are relicks of antiquities in, or connected with, this parish, of a different nature from those which have been mentioned.

Stirling, where the river Forth becomes first fordable, is the grand pass betwixt the south and north districts of Scotland, and therefore a pass which was always keenly
disputed

disputed by contending armies. There are three rivers on each side of this pass, which, as they intercept the roads leading to it, the passage of these also have, at various times, been contended; *viz.* on the north, the rivers Tay, Earn, and Allan; and, on the south, the Almond, the Avon, and the Carron; each of these rivers have at different times been tinged with blood.

The flat banks of the Almond, near Kirkliston and Livingstone, and the relative situation of these two places, point them out as the most likely for an army to attempt a passage, in their way to or from Stirling. The first is in the direct line betwixt Stirling and Edinburgh, or the east of Scotland, and England; and the latter from the south of Scotland, through that remarkable gap in Pentland hills called the Caldstain Slap, towards Stirling. No historian, so far as we know, has mentioned any battles having been fought at either of these places; but two large detached stones, standing erect, one near Kirkliston-bridge, and the other near the New Bridge, at no great distance from the former, evidently point out that bloody contentions had been here maintained; and if our historians are in general very inexplicit, their information is also often either evidently erroneous, or very suspicious. They tell us, that, towards the close of the 10th century, a battle was fought at Cramond, (the mouth of the water of Almond), betwixt Malcolm II. and Constantine the Usurper, and that, during the conflict, one of the armies were much incommoded by the sand of the sea being blown in their faces by a violent wind. This story is at least highly improbable. In the first place, The steep banks of this river at Cramond precludes every idea of an army attempting a passage here, in the face of an enemy; it was probably chosen as a Roman station, on account of its security from such an attack: and, secondly, The sands here are every tide covered by the sea; and we
appeal

appeal to common observation, if, in such a situation, sands ever acquire, in the interval of the tides, such a state of dryness as to admit of being blown by the winds.

We shall assign two reasons for conjecturing that this battle was fought further up the river, and at, or near, the New Bridge. First, From the name of the village at the mouth of this river; it retains to this day, for a considerable way up, the name of the *Water of Cramond*, which may of itself account for the mistake; but, secondly, If there was really any blowing of sand, it was more likely to happen at the place we have mentioned than at Cramond; for here, notwithstanding the long culture the soil has received, it is still extremely sandy and loose, and, 800 years ago, it was probably a mere barren sandy plain.

At the passage of the Almond, near Livingstone, vestiges have lately been discovered, which shew, with still greater certainty, that this also has been the theatre of war. On the south bank of that river, immediately opposite to Livingstone house, there are 4 pretty large irregular mounts, which, till of late, were not supposed to be artificial; upon minute inspection, however, they appear to be so, from the still visible excavations of the earth near them, out of which they have been formed, the confusion of the materials of which they are composed, and that a great number of stone-coffins have been discovered near the surface of two of them, some of these containing the visible remains of human skeletons, which, upon being exposed to the air, crumbled into dust. These coffins were formed of rough flagstones, had no top or covering of stone, and were in general not more than 5 feet long. Several other coffins, of the same kind and dimensions, have been dug up in this neighbourhood, but no where in such numbers as here. By the country people they are uniformly ascribed to the Picts; and hence a vulgar tradition, that these people were of a
very

very diminutive stature. They do not consider, that a man who is slain in the field of battle, and not stretched, when warm, to his full length, must necessarily occupy a shorter grave than one of an equal stature on whom this operation has been performed.

We do not pretend to say when, or by whom, this battle was fought, which was the occasion of raising these tumuli, for the burial of their dead, and as monuments of the event. Tradition says, that, towards the end of the Pictish kingdom, a battle was fought betwixt the Picts and Scots near Bathgate, not far from the spot; it is probable this battle happened about the same time, and betwixt the same parties; that it was decisive in favours of the Scots, and therefore that these coffins belonged to the Scots, and not to the Picts. About this period the Scots were uniformly victorious against the Picts. The conquered army, being beaten off the field, had no opportunity of burying their dead; and the victorious army never did it in this manner, unless the victory was so complete, that they thought it entitled, and they had sufficient time, to erect such laborious monuments.

A conjecture arises, that the principal carnage of the vanquished army having taken place upon a rising ground upon the other side of the river, immediately opposite to these tumuli, and the bodies being there left to corrupt in the open air, that field may have acquired the name of the *Maukes Hill*, which it still retains.

We have already gone out of the parish, but merely for the purpose of elucidating what we thought was connected with its history. We are now about to dive into the centre of the neighbouring parish of Mid-Calder, without having that excuse to plead; and therefore we have to beg pardon of the gentleman who has already written the account

count of that parish, which, although we have had no opportunity of seeing, we are no strangers to his abilities.

The mound of earth near the foot of the town of Mid-Calder, now called the Cunnigar, and upon which, it is said, many of the poor unhappy people called the witches of Calder were burnt; from its peculiar situation, perfect symmetry, and excavation of the earth on the south-west side, now almost imperceptible, it is unquestionably artificial; and there seems to be as little doubt, that it was erected for the purpose of holding provincial meetings of the Bards and Druids, who held all their meetings, civil or religious, in the open air, and upon mounds of earth natural or artificial. This conjecture, if not proved, is at least strongly fortified, when we are informed, that, in the Celtic language, the word *Cadair* signifies a meeting of this kind*; the word *Calder*, the name of this place and parish, is but a small deviation from the other, and is certainly derived from it.

The same authority informs us, that the person who officiated as crier or reciter at these provincial assemblies was called the *Dadgeiniad*, hence perhaps *Dadrige*, the name of a place in the near neighbourhood, which might have been the residence of this Druidical officer. These people were heathens; but we are not told that they ever defiled their temples with human sacrifices to their superstition, vanity, or malevolence.

Popular Song.—It may also be expected that something should be said of the *Bonny Lass of Livingstone*, so famed in song; but although this ballad, and the air to which it is sung, seem to have as little claim to antiquity as they have

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* See Owen's translation of the Epistle of Llyware Hen, respecting the British Bards.

to merit, yet we cannot give any satisfactory information upon the subject; all we can say is, that we have heard that she kept a public-house at a place called the High House of Livingstone, about a mile west of the church; that she was esteemed handsome, and knew how to turn her charms to the best account.

MUN.

NUMBER II.

PARISH OF BOLESKINE AND ABERTARF,

(COUNTY OF INVERNESS, SYNOD OF GLENELG, AND
PRESBYTERY OF ABERTARF.)

By an Heritor, a friend to Statistical Inquiries.

Name, and Extent, &c.

THE parish of Boleskine, so termed from a farm contiguous to the Fall of Foyers, meaning *Bail-o's-cionn* in Gaelic, or the town hanging above the loch, was many years ago united with the parish of Abertarf, situated in the neighbourhood of Fort-Augustus, and so denominated from the confluence of two rivers, Tarf and Oich, which, discharging themselves into Lochness, forms the ground on which the garrison now stands to a beautiful peninsula. The date of this union, nor the particular lands composing each of these parishes, cannot be traced. The united parish is

is at least 24 miles in length, and in most parts from 10 to 12 miles in breadth.—It formerly contained two glebes, one near Fort-Augustus, and the other at Boleskine; and the latter place, though the north-east boundary of the parish, contained till lately the church and manse. But this having been found inconvenient, and the idea of religious penance exploded, they were, about 30 years ago, removed to a more central situation at Drimtemple, probably deriving its name from having been anciently a place of worship; *Drim* signifying a ridge or height, and *Teample* what it bears in the English language. At this time both the old glebes were annexed to the estate of Lovat, then under the management of the Commissioners of forfeited estates, and an equivalent given to the minister contiguous to the new church. This measure relieved the clergyman from preaching in two different places of Stratherrick, as, when the church remained at Boleskine, he was in use every second Sabbath, of performing worship at a place called Bellaloin, about one mile distant from Drimtemple.

Ancient History.—The whole of this united parish was, previous to the 15th century, the property of the Lovat family; but who previously possessed it can only be learned from tradition. What leads to a belief that Abertarf was inhabited by the Cummins, a very powerful and warlike clan, is, that the place of Fort-Augustus, only called so from the establishment of the garrison, is in the vulgar language called Kilichuiman, meaning the burial-ground of the Cummins. And an eminence on the hill to the east of Lochtarf is called Sui-Chuiman, or Cummin's *resting-place*.

Stratherrick, composing the other part of this parish, so called from the river *Errick*, rising in the mountains of Strathdearn, and entering Lochness at *Boleskine*, Strath signifying

nifying a valley or plain betwixt two hills, was anciently possessed by the clan Grant; whether they quitted it voluntarily or otherwise, is immaterial as well as uncertain; but it would appear they went from thence to Strathspey, and called the names of their new possessions after those they inhabited in Stratherrick. Thus we still find the names of Delchapple, Garthbeg, and Garthmore, &c. in both these countries. Before the year 1545 the united parish seems to have been occupied by the tribes called Macgruers, Macimesheirs, and Maftavishe, then followers of the Lovat family; but the principal persons of all these tribes having accompanied the Lord Lovat in his expedition to settle the heir of the Clanronald family in his father's estate, were almost cut off in a bloody battle fought that year at the east end of Lochlochy, by the Clan Macdonald, who intercepted Lovat and his attendants in their return from the Hebrides; this battle, called Blar-lein, from the warriors on both sides having stripped and fought in their shirts, is recorded in the following picturesque lines of Buchanan's history of Scotland: "Fraserii pauciores a pluribus victi, atque ad unum cæsi. Ita gens numerosissima et sæpe de re Scotica bene merita tota interierat, nisi divino (ut credi par est) consilio, ex familiæ principibus octoginta domi reliquissent gravidas uxores, quæ suo quæque tempore mares peperunt singulos, qui omnes incolumes ad virilem pervenerunt ætatem." A few years before this period, a son of Lovat had settled at Foyers, and at same time acquired the property of the lands of Aberchalder in Abertarf. And the lineal descendant of another of Lovat's sons settled at Farraline, situated by a lake of that name in Stratherrick.—At the above conflict Farraline was slain, and Foyers so dangerously wounded, that he was carried from the field of battle by one Norman Gow, on his back, to the top of Suichuimain, about
eight

eight miles from Lochlochy; but Gow having an arrow in his side all the time, found himself unable to proceed farther, and there pulled out the arrow and expired. His descendants, in commemoration of this amazing effort of attachment, enjoyed a croft of land, rent free, from the family of Foyers till within these sixty years. Mr Frazer of Foyers having recovered from his wounds, was enabled, with the assistance of the few commoners who had not accompanied their chief on this fatal occasion, to protect the country from the inroads of the rival clan, who were much enfeebled by the effects of this severe conflict.

The numerous offspring descended of the Frasers killed in that battle, grew up, in process of time, to obliterate the depopulation thereby occasioned; and to corroborate the evidence resulting from the above passage in Buchanan, it is a notorious fact, that the whole principal gentlemen now resident in Stratherrick do, (with a few exceptions), trace their descent either from Mr Frazer of Foyers, or Farraline above mentioned; hence the country of Stratherrick for many years consisted principally of two tribes, the one called Mac-mhic-ulliams, or Foyer's tribe; and the other Sliochd-ion-mhic-alister, or Farraline's tribe: and from the 1545, till the forfeiture of the Lovat estate in the 1746, the state of the Highlands requiring much the attachment of vassals and tenants to their chief, Stratherrick was more considered as a nursery of men, than as yielding much pecuniary emolument to the Lovat family. Some of them received feu-rights of certain parts of the country, and all the younger sons, possessed of any funds, obtained proper wadsets of their respective possessions; and in the general valuation of the county for ascertaining the land-tax, in the 1691, every wadsetter is rated in the same manner with the heritors.

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In all contests betwixt the Lovat family, their neighbours, and others, the Stratherrick tribes were ready upon the first summons to espouse the cause of their chief; and as every tribe arranged itself under its particular leader, the county of Stratherrick exhibited a species of military subordination. If any dispute happened among individuals in the country, it was generally terminated by the strong-hand, or the baron-baillie placed there by the Lovat family, who was vested with the extravagant jurisdiction of the times. As the wadsetters had the lands on very moderate conditions, the principal rent demanded by them from their sub-tenants and cottars was military attendance, and their aid and assistance in such agricultural and rural services as was necessary for the wadsetter's accommodation.

Till the beginning of this century, the whole heritors and wadsetters in this parish, lived in houses, composed of cupple trees, and the walls and thatch made up of sod and divot; but in every wadsetter's house, there was a spacious hall, containing a large table, where he and his family and dependants eat their two meals a-day, with this single distinction, that he and his family sat at the one end of the table, and his dependants at the other; and it was reckoned no disparagement for the gentlemen to sit with commoners in the inns, such as the country then afforded, where one *cap*, and afterwards a single glass, went round the whole company. As the inhabitants experienced no want, and generally lived on the produce of their farms, they were hospitable to strangers, providing they did not attempt a settlement among them. But it was thought then disgraceful for any of the younger sons of these wadsetters, to follow any other profession than that of arms and agriculture; and it is in the remembrance of many now living, when the meanest tenant, would think it disparaging, to sit at the same table with a manufacturer. In progress of time, however, these prejudices

prejudices gave way to ideas, more suitable to an improved state of society.—This country is naturally divided by rivers, hills, and moors, into a variety of sections, and each of these admitting of some agricultural cultivation, have been computed by the inhabitants into davochs, half davochs, or plough-lands, being the fourth part of a davoch, according to their extent; each half davoch-land was again subdivided into eight parts, commonly called aughten-parts, and agreeable to the regularity and order which the Author of Nature has observed in all his operations. The whole country, with two exceptions, consists of a variety of half davoch-lands, each of which was let or disposed by the Lovat family or their chamberlain to a wadsetter or principal tackfman, and had no concern with the sub-tenantry; each sub-tenant had again a variety of cottars, equally unconnected with the principal tackfman; and each of these had a number of cattle of all denominations, proportional to their respective holdings, with the produce whereof he fed and clad himself and whole family. As there were extensive sheallings or grafings attached to this country, in the neighbourhood of the lordship of Badenoch, the inhabitants in the beginning of summer removed to these sheallings with their whole cattle, man, woman, and child; and it was no uncommon thing, to observe an infant in one creel, and a stone on the other side of the horse, to keep up an equilibrium; and when the grass became scarce in the sheallings, they returned again to their principal farms, where they remained while they had sufficiency of pasture, and then, in the same manner, went back to their sheallings, and observed this ambulatory course during the seasons of vegetation; and the only operations attended to during the summer season was their peats or fuel, and repairing their rustic habitations. When their small crops were fit for it, all hands descended from the hills, and continued on the farms till the
same

same was cut and secured in barns, the walls of which were generally made of dry stone, or wreathed with branches or boughs of trees; and it was no singular custom, after harvest, for the whole inhabitants to return to their sheallings, and to abide there till driven from thence by the snow. During the winter and spring, the whole pasturage of the country was a common, and a poind-fold was a thing totally unknown. The cultivation of the country was all performed in spring, the inhabitants having no taste for following green crops or other modern improvements.

Alteration since 1746.—From the year 1746, the minds of the inhabitants seemed to have taken a different turn; the wadsetters, finding no longer the importance of their sub-tenants, cottars, and dependants, withdrew their former familiarity and protection; and these thereupon imbibed a spirit of independence; and trusting to their own industry and exertions, many of them quitted their native country, for a better mode of living; and those who remained, being now obliged to pay money-rent in place of their former services, became more attentive to the cultivation of the soil. The wadsetters rights, having been all redeemed by the Crown, while in possession of the Lovat estate, became then sensible of their precarious tenures, and exacted from their tenants an additional rent, proportioned to the value of their possessions; and it must be acknowledged, that this change of system made a great alteration on the appearance of the inhabitants; they no longer were seen at church or market with garments the produce of their own sheep, spun by their wives and daughters, and the simple fare of their ancestors entirely lost its relish; the labourer increased his demand of wages; and the principal tacksmen, thereby finding the returns from his holding not to bear proportion to his wants, bethought himself of a different plan of management,

and exchanged his former tenants and dependants for a flock of south country sheep. This step, altho' it had the appearance of great rigour, has turned out much to the advantage of the tenantry, who thereupon retired to the town of Inverness; and applying themselves to industrious labour in the two manufactories there, they thereby not only improved their living, but were enabled to give education and trades to their children, some of whom are now sending grateful remittances from distant climes. The introduction of sheep, though it at first had only the effect of banishing the small tenantry, will, if successful, in a few years have the same tendency towards the principal tacksmen; and this once populous country will then exhibit the same scene of depopulation as we behold in the borders of this part of the united kingdoms: at same time, the success of this new plan appears problematical, from the state of the climate, which we shall now attempt to describe.—But we must here, in treating of this parish, make a distinction betwixt the parts of it to the east of Suichuiman, and those to the westward; the latter shall be denominated Abertarf, and the former Stratherrick.

Climate.—The country of Abertarf, containing an extensive plain from the west end of Lochness to the bounds of the parish of Kilmanivaig, is hardly 30 or 40 feet above the level of the sea; and owing to this circumstance, as well as to the temperature of the lake, it is very little addicted to any lasting snow; but from its contiguity to the Western Ocean, much more liable to floods of rain than the eastern part of the parish.—Stratherrick, rising gradually from the river Tarf to an altitude of 400 or 500 feet above the level of the lake, with the exception only of the principal residence of the family of Foyers, and some other possessions on the banks of the lake, being nearly the central point be-
twixt

twixt the eastern and western seas, is not liable to incessant rains; but, from its being furrounded with very high hills, it is not only accustomed to an early fall of snow, but it is in the remembrance of many persons now in life, to have seen the country for 6, 8, and 9 weeks, in such a state that not a tuft of heather was to be seen. It is true, this has not been the case for seven or eight years bygone, but who can venture to say that these seasons may not again recur; and as the produce of the country in corn and hay could not subsist its present immense flock of the woolly species for one week, the question is, in that event, in what manner they can be preserved from starvation?

Soil.—The soil in this parish is of different qualities; that in Abertarf consists, in the surface, of light black mould, but sandy in the bottom; and in most years, from the great moisture issuing from the rains and vapours, to which that part of the parish is generally liable, the growth of corn and grass is very abundant; but except early crops, it is very seldom got safely secured. In Stratherrick, except in the few farms on the banks of Lochness, the soil is of a quality nearly approximating to moss. On the south side of the country it is generally observed that the surface is not above a foot or 18 inches from the chingle; on the north, from two to three feet deep; but as the whole united parish is intersected by a variety of rivers, the lands on the banks thereof are frequently found to contain abundance of clay, which in many places is very near the surface; and as these rivers are permitted to flow in their natural direction, without any interruption, they frequently inundate the neighbouring plains, and often lacerate and demolish those parts thereof contiguous to them; and when these overflows happen in the winter or spring seasons, before the crop is sown, the effect thereof is greatly to ameliorate vegetation, and
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the consequence is a redundant crop of corn ; but when this happens after the seed is in the ground, it generally proves the destruction of the crop ; but the portions of lands, contiguous to rivers, always produce the most exuberant crop of natural hay and pasturage.

Agricultural Process.—Although no parish is better supplied by nature with limestone, there being abundance thereof in the lands of Foyers in Statherrick, and in Aberchalder in Abertarf, it is with regret we must mention, that the same has proved of very little benefit to the inhabitants of this parish. We do not learn that any part of Abertarf has been tried with lime as a manure, although many of the farms are within a very little distance of the quarry. It is true, Mr James Frazer, writer to the signet, proprietor of the lands of Gortuleg, has, within these 5 or 6 years, manured his ground with lime brought from the quarries of Mr Frazer of Foyers ; from the ruggedness of the road, he is obliged to lead the lime-stone on horses backs to his farm, or places nearly contiguous thereto ; and as he has abundance of convenient fuel, he is enabled to burn them, in kilns built in the corners of his fields, with less expence than any of his neighbours ; and although the consequential returns of green crops, potatoes, and corn, greatly exceeds what is usual in that country, the great expence of procuring this manure, does not seem to afford sufficient encouragement, for his example admitting of imitation ; but probably the heritor of this quarry, may lay down a plan, for disposing of the raw materials, at a moderate rate, for a specific number of years, and his neighbours may thereby be induced to make sufficient roads to the quarry, and thereby, with all local inconveniences, make a trial of this species of manure, especially as the country abounds in variety of moſſes, which has now been found by experience to be an excellent

lent subject of improvement, when drained and sufficiently manured with lime. It should not be omitted, that some of the principal tacksmen in this country, have of late years been in the practice, of ploughing their ground, in the latter end of harvest, and beginning of winter; but the generality of sub-tenants continue the old mode of labouring, which, so far as we have been able to learn, was as follows: When a field was 3, 4, or 5 years lea, and failed to produce any grafs, if calculated for bear, it received one ploughing as soon after harvest as was convenient, and in spring it was spread over with a compost of old divot, sod or turf, and dung, and in the beginning of summer the lands were a second time ploughed, and sown with bear, and afterwards yearly with black oats, while it yielded any tolerable produce: if unfit for bear, it was *tautbed* in the preceding summer, or covered with the same compost as above-mentioned during the winter, and so on successively cropt with oats, every following year, in manner above specified; and it was no uncommon practice, for a farmer to take 5 or 6 successive crops of oats from the same field; the reason assigned for this frequency of crops is, that the severity of the winter storms rendering it necessary for the inhabitants to house their cattle, it was expedient, by every method, to provide the means of their subsistence.

Produce.—The grain of this country, was anciently bear and black oats; and before the introduction of sheep, the country abounded in black cattle, and on them the tenants chiefly relied for payment of their rents; and we have been assured, that the number of cattle annually sold from this parish, would exceed 800. In Abertarf, from the mildness of the climate, these cattle were often disposed of early in the year; but in Stratherrick they were so reduced during the course of the winter, as not to be saleable till the months of August

August or September. But as more than three-fourths of this parish is now covered with sheep, the number of black cattle is proportionably diminished; and it may be safely computed, that there are now sold annually from this parish from 2000 to 3000 sheep and wethers. Within the last 30 years, the tenantry in general have run much upon potatoes, and in the country of Abertarf, this article of late years constitutes the principal part of their crop; and in Stratherrick, although a hilly country, every tenant and cottar has a proportion of his ground planted with this valuable root; and it should also be recorded, that two heritors of this country, having of late years been at considerable expence, in clearing their grounds of stones, levelling the same, by removing the banks or interstices, vulgarly called *merins*, which are now frequently to be seen in the unimproved part of the country, building dikes, &c. have also introduced a rotation of crops; the first by sowing turnips, following that with bear and grafs-seeds; and it is to be hoped, that these successful attempts will become hereafter an object of imitation.—Mr Frazer of Gortuleg having about 4 years ago imported a species of grain called red oats, brought from the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, he has had such prosperous returns, that most of the tenants in the country, to whom he is so obliging as communicate what can be spared of the produce, now prefer this grain to the black oats used by their ancestors, as it is not only found to produce a redundant crop of straw, but to ripen as early as the native grain of the country; but it would appear from the trials made, that this grain deteriorates in two or three years trial, and therefore a triennial importation would seem proper and necessary. Mr Frazer has also inclosed several of his fields with thorn hedges, which are in a thriving condition.

The natural wood of this country is chiefly birch, allar, and hazel; but from the great trunks found in all the
mosses,

mosses, there seems no doubt, that the face of the country was anciently covered with fir and oak trees. The two above-mentioned heritors, of late years, have much improved the face of that part of the country where they reside, by large plantations of fir, larch, &c. &c.

So far as have been discovered, there appears to have been no minerals of any value in this country, excepting the lime-stone quarries on the estate of Foyers and Aberchalder, as already noticed.

This country, does not appear ever to have been an object, for any great man to fix his residence in, and therefore, we can trace no remains of any edifice worthy of observation. But it would be wrong to omit mentioning the celebrated fall of Foyers, which is situated in this parish, and the beautiful ride from Inverness to this cascade, amidst a smooth road, cut through tremendous rocks, and shaded by a natural hedge betwixt the same and Lochness, which, together with a variety of scenery presenting itself amidst the thundering noise of the cascade, has frequently engaged the admiration of travellers.

The garrison of Fort-Augustus, situated at the western end of the loch, on a plain of no inconsiderable magnitude, having the river Tarf on the south-east, the river Oich to the west, and on all sides surrounded with hills towering to an extravagant height, has often been admired for the variety of the landscape; and as it lies in the centre of communication betwixt the Western Isles and the South, seems sufficiently calculated for the establishment of a market, for the several produce of these countries; and it is hoped, that the one lately attempted there, will, in time, prove of much public utility.

Were we to describe the various glens and valleys which are to be seen in this parish, it would prove more a degree of partiality to our native country, than any benefit and amusement

amusement to the reader. But it would have been unpardonable, to neglect giving a short description, of the productive shealling or grazing called Killin: It is totally concealed from the few strangers who are pleased to visit the inhabitants, being surrounded with hills of an immense altitude, and the access to it so rugged, as frequently to endanger the lives of infants, when transported thereto in manner above described. It is bounded on the east by a lake, from whence issues the principal river composing the Fall of Foyers; on both sides of this loch the rocks descend with such inconceivable gradation as hardly to be passable; on the north side it is so steep that it is denominated Eakin, or Necessity, implying the great difficulty of passing that way; on the south-side called Craggin, or Rocky; and notwithstanding all the attempts by the inhabitants to render it passable, it in some parts only contains a path of two or three feet in breadth; and if a horse stumbles, or is in the least affrighted, it tumbles down by a precipice into the deepest part of the lake, and melancholy instances of this kind have sometimes occurred. When we come to the end of this curious path we are struck with amazement; behold a valley covered with all species of verdure, a computed mile in length, and a half mile in breadth, bisected by a river flowing in a meandrous course, composed of a variety of streams descending from the hills at the western end; and on all sides the ground, rising by imperceptible progression to the clouds, appears green to the very summit. To this shealling, the inhabitants, in ancient times, performed their periodical migrations in manner above described; but since the introduction of sheep, the same has been mostly detached from the former possessors, and is now principally inhabited by shepherds and their flocks.

This parish abounds in a variety of lakes, viz. Lochfaraline, Lochgarf, the two lakes of Knoky, Lochtarf, Lochkillin,

killin, &c. &c. and abound in a variety of fish, which has frequently proved the amusement, and a delicious repast, to strangers, as well as to the natives.

The manners of the inhabitants of this parish have undergone a material change within these 50 years; before that period they lived in a plain simple manner, experienced few wants, and possessed not the means, nor had any desire, of procuring any foreign commodities. If they had salt and tobacco, paid their pittance of rents, and performed their ordinary services to their superiors, and that their conduct in general met their approbation, it seemed to be the height of their ambition; but this chain of attachment having been loosed, if not dismembered, by the abolition of heritable jurisdictions, &c. which soon succeeded the lamentable troubles of the years 1745 and 1746, the better sort or principal tacksmen having become more indifferent about their inferiors, this inspired them with a spirit of independence. But though they have shaken off the prejudices of clanish chivalry, the impression of attachment to their natural superior is not totally defaced; for upon a late occasion, when their young chief had a call for men, in loyal support of his King and Constitution, it is a recent fact, that the heritors and principal tacksmen of this district held a meeting, and assessed themselves in men or money according to their several abilities: Their effort was abundantly successful, without any breach of law or good order, and their example tended much to accelerate the national levy thereby intended; and if the heritors of this country, will but persevere in treating their inferiors with the same tenderness, humanity, and sympathy, which they have hitherto experienced from the representatives of the first family in this district, we flatter ourselves, that we shall not see a final period, to this species of reciprocal sensibility, which probably, in a greater degree, is to be found among the

Aborigines of this district, than in that more eligible country in which, after quitting this parish, they establish their settlement; and were it not reckoned a digression from the subject of the present essay, we would express our admiration, to behold the attachment the natives of this country bear to their *natale solum*; that after wasting the prime of life in foreign climes, and in services honourable to themselves, and useful to their country, they limit their ideas to that domestic retirement, which has produced so many scenes of beauty and improvement, as in our visit to that district, the eyes are constantly struck with; and when we are informed, that their tenures are by no means of a permanent nature, protection, united with affability and complacency on the one hand, and implicit confidence on the other, excites our wishes that such principles were to become more general throughout the nation.

Having already observed, that in the days of old, the whole pasturage of this country, after concluding the harvest, was a species of common, we must not forbear to mention, that in modern times the practice is widely different; every tenant now-a-days is attentive to preserve his own bounds; and as the principal farms were some years ago granted under leases of 19 years endurance, with a limited obligation to recompense the tenants for certain improvements, this has produced several inclosures of various kinds; and though we cannot but admire the taste with which some of them have been executed, they have a tendency to divert the eye from the native deformity of the surface. This emboldens us to say, that if heritors in general were more liberal in their encouragement to the tenantry, and were they relieved from those fetters which their ancestors had imposed upon them, frequently beyond their abilities, that we would soon observe an exuberance of produce, and those

those scenes of beauty and urbanity, which strike us with pleasure and admiration in many improved districts of Scotland.

This parish, being situated in a part of the great opening betwixt the west and the sea, denominated of old Glennmore-na-h'alabin, or the Large Glen of Caledonia. It may not be impertinent to this subject, to notice, the evident public utility that would result, by opening a communication, by water, betwixt the Murray Frith at Inverness and the branch of the Western Ocean at Fort-William. The Author of Nature seems to have intended this as a practicable measure: the distance, taken in a straight direction, does not much exceed 50 miles; of this, Lochness, Lochoich, and Lochlochy, all fit for navigation, make up betwixt 30 and 40; and though we cannot venture to prognosticate, that the expenditure of uniting these lakes would return an immediate recompense, we must beg leave to signify our belief, that the employing the excreffive wealth of this country in such operations, would, in process of time, redound more to the national advantage, than the sporting thereof in speculative schemes on transatlantic plantations, liable to the destructive inroads of Charibs, &c. &c.

We cannot entertain a doubt, that it must be the blame of the heritors, if the tenantry of this parish, so near to inexhaustible lime-quarries, will not, in time, imitate the successful experiments already made, of ameliorating the productive value of their several tenements. But whether this mode will be found to yield a greater revenue to the landholders than covering the whole country with flocks of sheep, is beyond our abilities to determine; but we may with confidence affirm, that this mode can alone restore the decrease of population of this country, which falls in course of our plan now to be stated.

Formerly, Abertarf was inhabited by the numerous and
hardy

hardy race of the names of Macdonald, Macgruers, Kennedies, and Frasers, and some of the principal *towns* or farms possessed by gentlemen of much estimation in the country; but this part of the parish having, within these 30 years, exchanged its proprietors, it is now almost totally under sheep, and hardly contains the tenth part of its former inhabitants; and some parts of the country of Stratherrick, having been converted into sheep-walks, has considerably reduced the number of its people: So that in exhibiting the following statement, taken from a late accurate investigation, we regret much to find it considerably short of the ancient inhabitants it formerly contained. In Dr Webster's report, *anno* 1755, the number of souls is stated at 1961. The parish at present contains 378 families, but of these at least 18 are connected with the garrison of Fort-Augustus, and 70 invalids, who all live in the fort; and the number of inhabitants, (including invalids), in the whole parish, amounts only to 1741; making a decrease of 220 souls. From the number of men who have enlisted in his Majesty's service, in the course of the present war, it may be affirmed, that the proportion which the female sex, bears to that of the male, is from 3 to 2.

School.—The only source of education the inhabitants of this parish have hitherto enjoyed, was a schoolmaster established by the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge, in the village of Fort-Augustus, who has had frequently from 70 to 80 and 100 scholars; but, in respect there have not hitherto been any parochial schoolmaster established in this district, that institution has lately been withdrawn; but, as we understand, that the whole heritors of this parish, are unanimous in their wish to have this defect remedied, we hope soon to see that useful appointment revived under the patronage of the Honourable Society; and it may with confidence

fidence be asserted, that no place in the north country stands more in need of such an institution. At present, such of the tenants as have ability, send their children to distant places, for the means of education; but those of the poorer sort, must necessarily be void of any species of literature.

For what reason we cannot assign, but we do not find that there has been any regular baptismal register, kept in this parish, for many years past.

Rent.—The valued rent of this parish, as appears from the general valuation-book, made up in the 1691, amounts to L. 3295 : 3 : 4 Scotch; but what the real rent of it may be, or how far the same may admit of increase, or be liable to diminution, a circumstance depending upon the present speculation of sheep-farming, is what we cannot take upon us to ascertain.

Church and Manse.—The present incumbent has a commodious manse, and a large church, which would contain the whole of the inhabitants of this parish, built and slated about 30 years ago. These underwent a late reparation, at a considerable expence to the heritors; but, from the exposure of both these edifices to the violence of the storm, they will almost require an annual repair, for which there was a fund established at the last presbytery visitation, which, if wisely applied, may in future relieve the heritors from a great expenditure, similar to what they were lately put to.

Stipend.—So far as we can learn, the old stipend payable to the clergyman was L. 75 Sterling, including communion-elements; but, by a late augmentation, it was increased to L. 105 Sterling, and is all payable in money, there being no victual rent in this parish. The minister has no other farm,
in

in addition to his glebe, excepting a small grasing on the Lovat estate, for which he pays a moderate rent.

Character.—The inhabitants of all ranks, are very regular in their attendance on divine worship; but we regret to mention our information, that the lower set, are apt to assemble in the evening at whisky-houses: the late parliamentary prohibition to distillation, has brought about a great reformation in this respect, having almost annihilated these nuisances of retail, and we hope never again to observe, such frequent violation of morality and decency in this parish.

Heritors.—Besides the Lovat family, there are six other proprietors, each of whom possesses a separate mill; and there are three mills on the Lovat property in this parish.

Antiquity.—We do not know of any monument of antiquity worth the mentioning, excepting that, on the east confines of this parish, there is a towering hill of great altitude, and difficulty of access on all sides, which, in the Gaelic language, is called Dunardile, on the summit of which there appears the remains of an old fortification; and we are informed that a similar tower is in the same direction, contiguous to the house of Invergarry, in the parish of Kilmanivaig; and the tradition of the country is, that these hills were watch-towers for giving signals upon the approach of an enemy, which was done by large fires, composed of wood and other combustibles, and this seems to correspond with the Gaelic etymology of the appellation, *dun* signifying a hill, *ard* high, and *dyil* Carnochs, or followers of a tribe.

Police.—We cannot conclude this narrative, without observing, that though few of the heritors reside in this parish,

rish, the principal inhabitants pay great attention to the police, such as establishing constables, holding regular meetings of Justices of the Peace, for conducting and repairing the highways, &c. &c.; and though it must be acknowledged, that several mistakes are committed in forming their plans, yet, if the skill and experience of the gentlemen of this parish was equal to their patriotic zeal, no district would be better supplied with these means of public accommodation.

NUM

NUMBER III.

PARISH OF KILMADOCK OR DOUNE,

(COUNTY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING,
PRESBYTERY OF DUNBLANE).

By MR ALEXANDER MACGIBBON.

Origin of the Names.

THE ancient name of this parish is Kilmadock. The word *kil*, is the same with the Gaelic word *cill*, (the consonant *c*, in the Gaelic, being sounded hard, like *k* in English), signifying a *church-yard*. Some make this word to signify a *burying-place*; but the Gaelic word for this is *cladb*. The word *cill*, is, perhaps, the original of the English word *cell*, which signifies the cave, or little habitation of a religious person.

But, whatever may be the true etymology, it is evident, that the sequestered spot known by the name *Kilmadock*, had been once the solitary habitation of Saint Madock, (Saint Madocus), and, perhaps, was the place of his interment, as these pious fathers were commonly buried near to their reclusive habitation.

The

The church, or monastery, it is to be presumed, was, therefore, originally dedicated to this saint; and hence the parish obtained the present name. There are many other names of parishes in Scotland from the same origin. Such are Kilmartin, Kilmalie, Kilmarnock, &c.

Formerly, the church stood on the spot just mentioned; but having become ruinous, a new church was built in the town of Doune, in the year 1756; since which period, the parish has been frequently called Doune. The origin of this name will be explained under the title *Doune Castle*.

Situation.—This parish is part of the western district of Perthshire, and comprehends a considerable portion of the ancient stewartry of Monteith. It is situated in the presbytery of Dunblane, and synod of Perth and Stirling; and lies very near the centre of Scotland.

Both the ancient and present churches lie low. But the greatest part of the grounds in the parish command a grand view of Benlomond, and the neighbouring mountains, and a beautiful prospect of the castle of Stirling, and the fine country that enriches the banks of the winding Forth; nor is the scenery rendered less beautiful, by the romantic banks of the Teith, which washes the sides of the ancient castle of Doune, and rolls along the picturesque groves of Blair-Drummond; and while the eye of the beholder is exhausted by the endless variety of the objects in view, its fatigue is generously relieved by the stupendous hills of Tough, Gargunnock, and Kippen, that extend, in a noble ridge, from east to west, for the space of 20 miles.

Extent, Soil, Produce.—This parish lies north and south; and, like most of the other parishes in Scotland, is irregular in form. The neighbouring parishes are, Muthill on the north, and north-east; Kippen on the south; Dunblane, and

part of Lecropt and Kincardine, on the east; and Callander, part of Port of Monteith, and another part of Kincardine, on the west. It is separated from Muthill, by a hill called *Uaine-voir*, (which is, properly, *Uaigh-mor*); and from the parish of Kippen by the river Forth; and for a considerable way north from this river, it intersects the parish of Kincardine. The whole area of the parish is supposed nearly equal to a square of 8 miles, or 64 square miles.

The soil is various, viz. carse-clay, till, loam, sandy soil, boggy soil, heath or moor, and moss. The lands on the side of Forth are rich carse clay; the rising grounds to the north comprehending the lands of Coldoch, Craighead, Spittalton, and Gartincaber, are mostly a rich garden mould; the south banks of the Teith, are a mixture of till and loam; the north banks, and the grounds for, perhaps, a mile northward, are not so rich, having a mixture of sand. In this district, however, there are several farms of excellent quality, capable of producing all sorts of grain in perfection, particularly, in the lands of Craigton, Annat, Argaty, &c.

The higher grounds of the parish, extending to Uaigh-mor, are mostly wet boggy ground, and moss and moor.

The lands round the town of Doune, being occupied by the inhabitants, and enriched with the manure of the place, and the cattle-markets, are now rendered a fine garden mold; and those to the east of the town, comprehending the lands of Newton and Row, are a strong rich till, perhaps, equally fertile as carse clay. The quality of these lands, probably, gave rise to their name, *Row*, which is, likely, the same with the Gaelic word *ruadb*, signifying *reddish*, these lands being of a reddish colour.

The various soils above described, at the same time, consist of various degrees, on account of their local situation. The lands on the south side of Teith, rise gradually towards Gartincaber, and, from thence, slope gradually to the level
carse

carse on the banks of Forth; the whole forming a ridge, running from north-west to south-east, and extending along the lands of Lochfield, the house of Gartincaber, &c. where the soil is coldest, and most barren; growing warmer and richer on each side, as the grounds decline towards Teith on the north, and the Carse of Forth on the south. When ancient Caledonia was covered with woods, the wood along this ridge would be called, *the grove on the hill-side*, which, in Gaelic, is *Garran-cabbar*; and hence the present name, *Gartincaber*.

The lands of Newton and Row are in the same form of a ridge, and hence exhibit various degrees; and as the grounds on the north banks of Teith rise, gradually, to a considerable height, the soil, though of one general quality, grows colder, and more barren, as the rise increases, the upper farms being far inferior in fertility to those on the river side.

The produce, like the soil, is various, *viz.* wheat, rye, oats, barley, beans, peas, clover, rye-grass, and flax. The soil is also friendly to all kinds of roots, particularly the potatoe, and turnip, which grow in great abundance and perfection.

Mr Dougal Balfour, a skilful farmer, in the year 1784, sowed 3 bolls of red oats, at Callichat, which produced no less than 48 bolls, yielding an equal quantity of meal.

There is no wheat raised, except in the carses on the banks of Forth; though the most of the lands on the south side of Teith, as well as the Rows, and Newton, are capable of producing it. A potatoe crop is accounted better husbandry, where the grounds are free and dry. This root enriches the land, in place of exhausting it, like wheat; and when the crop is drilled, so as to admit horse-hoeing, it is equal to a fallow. The potatoe is succeeded by a crop of
barley,

barley, with grafs-seeds, which is found to be an excellent rotation.

Hills.—Although the grounds of the parish rise from the level of the Forth, to a great height on the north boundary, yet they cannot, properly, be called hilly ground. The ascent is regular and progressive, and carriages of all sorts may be conveyed to any part, except the hill on the north. The proper name of this hill is *Uaigh-mor*, signifying *great cave, or den*; there being a cave in the rock, on the south side of the hill, which was formerly the haunt of robbers. These were only extirpated about 40 or 50 years ago.

Woods.—There are very few plantations, or natural woods. The heritors of this parish are extremely careless of planting. Nothing is more friendly to agriculture, in a cold climate, than warming the fields by woods, and stripes of planting; and the pleasures of the imagination are much refined by the prospect of romantic woods and groves; besides, when such immense sums are annually remitted to Norway, &c. for timber, there is an absolute necessity for attending to useful plantations at home. In short, the cultivation of forest trees, unites in itself economy, profit, and beauty. Yet, strange to tell, the whole of this parish appears almost totally barren of planting. There is no district, perhaps, in Scotland, that affords greater scope for useful, as well as ornamental planting, than the parish of Doune: Large tracks of moor, unfit for any cultivation, or for producing even grafs, which would raise all kinds of fir; and there are multitudes of waste corners, through the arable grounds, that might be usefully employed in raising all sorts of timber. In a very short space of time the grounds would wear a different aspect, and agriculture be much improved.

No

No gentleman has exhibited a more striking proof of the truth of the above remark, than the late Lord Kames, in the wonderful display of his taste and judgment on his estate of Blair-Drummond; which, from a bleak barren waste, without a shrub, may now vie even with the most luxuriant scenes of fancy. His Lordship has united art to nature, profit to pleasure, and judgment to taste, in such an astonishing manner, that one, while beholding the effect of improvements on this spot, feels a satisfaction of enjoyment not to be expressed.

It would be improper here to pass unnoticed the fine dressed lawns of Cambusmore, where the verdant larix rears her lofty cone, to deck the dark sullen brow of the Grampian mountain; and where the rolling streams of the Teith resound through the encircling grove.

Nor is it here unpleasant to mention the charming policy of Newton, where the aged oak rears his majestic boughs, to warm and protect the feeble stem of the tender sprig.

The Earl of Moray, who is proprietor of one-third of the parish, has, of late, turned his attention to the improvement of his estates here; and there is no doubt of his Lordship's setting a noble example to his neighbours, from the proof he has given of his taste and judgment on his estates in Fife. Lord Moray's lands are finely adapted for planting and inclosing; and the revenues of this wealthy nobleman, can admit of those experiments, which smaller heritors often feel a burden too heavy to bear, unless when they prove successful.

Springs, Lakes, Rivers, Fishing.—This parish abounds with fine water springs, from its peculiar situation on the edge of the Grampian mountains. From the sides of Uaighmor a great number of springs issue; and at one place,
near

near the burn of Garwall, there is a very large spring, bursting out of the solid rock, in the form of a spout, the waters whereof are supposed mineral, though no trial has been made of their quality.

The town of Doune is plentifully supplied with springs of soft water, that never dry in the warmest summer; and the banks of Teith abound with similar natural springs. In short, the whole grounds are liberally supplied with water, for the use of man and beast.

Below the hill Uaighmor, there is a considerable lake, formed chiefly from the multitude of living springs mentioned above, called *Lochmaghaig*, which is a Gaelic word, and means the *loch at the level field*—*aig*, being the Gaelic word for *at*, and *magh*, for a *level field*; so the loch just mentioned lies at the level below Uaighmor. This lake forms nearly a circle, and is about a mile diameter. The adjoining heritors are, the Earl of Moray, whose grounds nearly surround it, and Edmonstone of Cambuswallace. It is of considerable depth, but no exact sounding has been made.

There is a small lake near Gartincaber, not near so large as Lochmaghaig. Except these, there are no other lakes within the parish.

The river Forth bounds the south end of the parish, and has been already described. It is navigable as far as the cruives of Craigforth, and could be easily rendered so all the way to Gartmore, by deepening one or two fords.

The Forth abounds with salmon; an account of the fishing whereof is given in the Statistical Account of the parish of Stirling. The tract of the river above Craigforth is so narrow and deep, that the net cannot be used with success.

The next river is the Teith, formerly mentioned. It arises from Loch Cathrine, in Balquhiddar; from whence it
passes,

passes, in an easterly direction, through other two small lakes, and falls into Loch Ludnich *, a noble lake above Callander, surrounded with stupenduous rocks and mountains, totally inaccessible from the lake on the west side. The stream is considerably increased by this lake; and, issuing from the south-east end of the loch, it dashes over precipices, rocks, and cataracts, till it reaches the romantic village of Callander, where it beautifully meanders round the meadows and arbours, as if unwilling to leave this delightful spot. Being at length forced to depart, it holds a rapid course for several miles, washing the ancient chapels of Torry and Lanerick, the church of Kilmadock, and the Adelphi cotton-works; and, passing the bridge of Doune, at length approaches the castle. From thence it moves gently along the solitary walks of Blair-Drummond, and the grotesque pleasure-grounds of Ochertyre, and joins the Forth about 3 miles north-west of Stirling.

The banks of this river were frequently honoured with the presence of the late Lord Kames, whose profound genius, and refined taste, has conferred so much honour on Scotland. This great admirer of the works of nature, having wandered along the banks of this beautiful river, till he reached that spot below the castle of Doune, where the scenery is remarkably picturesque; and being wrapt in admiration of the grandeur of the scenery in view, rested himself on a seat erected in honour of a favourite friend, on which he immediately placed this inscription:

From Montagu's favourite seat,
Look up to the lofty sky,
Look down to the rapid flood below,
And yield to her,
That nature is above art.

These

* Ludnich signifies the little finger, which is the exact shape of the loch.

These lines are at once philosophical, poetical, and expressive, and worthy of his Lordship; and the works of this honourable Judge on the banks of Teith, are a noble monument of a bright understanding, a benevolent heart, and an angelic mind.

————— Him for the studious shade
Kind nature form'd, deep, comprehensive, clear,
Exact, and elegant; who, from the gloom
Of cloister'd monks, and jargon-teaching schools,
Led forth the true philosophy—————

THOMSON.

The river Teith abounds with excellent trout and salmon, which are caught chiefly by the rod and hook. There is a cruive erected below Doune castle, where great numbers of salmon are caught; but, owing to the expence of keeping up dam-heads on this rapid river, which, in rainy seasons, sweeps every thing before it, there is no other cruive of consequence; though, when manufactures increase, and water machinery is erected on this river, cruives will become common; and thus multitudes of fishes be taken all the way towards Loch Ludnich.

Besides the fishing of the Teith, Lochmaghaig abounds with pikes and perches; but no trout or salmon. The pike and perch in this lake are very large, and, when properly dressed, afford tolerable good food; but, for want of boats, few are caught.

There are a number of small rivers, or burns, that run from the north into Teith, which are excellent for all kinds of water machinery, and afford very fine trout-fishing, especially after rain.

The largest is Ardoch, which rises from Lochmaghaig, and is joined by the burn of Garwell, (a small rivulet that rises on the east side of Uaighmor), and, after running through

through part of the parish of Dunblane, (where it is called the Water of Kilbryde), joins the Teith below the castle of Doune.

The next in size is Kelty, which bounds the parish on the west, and joins the Teith at Cambusmore, about a mile east of the village of Callander.

The other rivulet of consequence is Annat, or Cambus, which is remarkable for its beautiful cascades, near the house of Annat, where, by the force of the stream, in times of floods, it has formed a deep glen out of the solid rock. The house of Annat stands on the brink of a grand cascade, known by the name of the Caldron-linn, from the constant boiling of the waters, like a seething caldron. This burn joins the Teith at the church of Kilmadock, rendering the spot extremely delightful and romantic.

Besides these, there are a number of other smaller rivulets, that render the grounds pleasant as well as valuable, affording warm retreats to the cattle in stormy weather, and a plentiful supply of water in time of drought.

Wild Animals and Birds.—The wild animals here, are the same as in the neighbouring parishes, hares, rabbits, foxes, badgers, otters, founmarts, or polecats. The braes on the north-east side of Cambuswallace house have been long a receptacle for badgers and foxes; but these mischievous animals are now much banished. There are great numbers of otters to be found in the borders of Lochmaghaig; and on the sides of Uaighmor, the stag bounds along the heath.

Partridges breed in great numbers, especially on the north side of Teith. All kinds of moor-fowl are to be found on the high grounds towards Uaighmor; and Lochmaghaig abounds with herons and wild-geese. In the winter season, the geese fly down in the morning to moss Flanders, where they remain till evening, and then return to

the loch. It is very pleasant to behold these sagacious birds flying in a beautiful string, beating the air most uniformly and regular, and keeping watch by turns, even on their journey.

Roads and Bridges.—The great roads from Edinburgh to Fort-William, and from Glasgow to Perth, pass through this parish, crossing each other at the town of Doune. These roads are far from being in good order, but application is made for making them turnpike. The road to Fort-William passes along the north side of Teith.

Except these two roads, there are no other roads, public or private, in the parish, passable in bad weather.

The public are equally ill supplied with bridges, though, it is evident, from the preceding description of the rivers and burns, that communication must be much obstructed in time of floods. There is no bridge over Teith, below Calander, except one near Doune, called the Bridge of Teith. This is a strong building of 2 arches, and has stood the test of 266 winters, though often in extreme danger, by the rapidity of the current, in time of thaw, after frost. This useful bridge was erected by Robert Spittal, tailor to King James V. about the year 1530, previous to which, there was only a ferry-boat; and tradition reports, that Mr Spittal coming this way, happened to leave his money behind; the churlish boatman refused to ferry him over; to resent which insult, the generous tailor immediately built the bridge, and so punished the boatman, by ruining his business. But, be this as it may, Mr Spittal was a man of a noble mind, and benevolent heart; and the hospital he founded in Stirling, for the relief of poor tradesmen, is another monument of his patriotic virtue.

Climate,

Climate, Disease, Longevity.—This parish is an extremely healthful situation. While the Grampian mountains protect it from the nipping frosts of the north, it is finely exposed to the Atlantic breeze, and heat of the sun. The rapidity of the river Teith, and the smaller rivers, have likewise a strong tendency to sweep away those noxious vapours that haunt the low countries. Being situated in the centre of the kingdom, the climate is mild, and free of those rains that drench the western coast, and the piercing winds that blow incessantly on the inhabitants of the eastern borders. Hence, in this parish, there are very few diseases. The inhabitants enjoy a clear healthful atmosphere, and live to a good old age. Several remarkable instances of longevity have appeared in the parish; and, at present, men of 60, 70, and 80, are to be found in health and vigour.

The only fatal diseases are, the small-pox among the children, and fevers and consumptions among the middle aged.

The small-pox often makes dreadful havock among the children of this district, owing to the practice of inoculation not being general. The country people conceive it highly improper to permit any act that tends to bring trouble or distress on their helpless infants. This extreme care and anxiety is a strong mark of parental fondness and love; but experience is the strongest argument, and nothing ought sooner to conquer ancient prejudices. The small-pox is evidently an epidemical disease; and, if it be true that the natural pox is much more destructive than the inoculate, no person should hesitate in adopting the practice. It has been clearly shewn, from the practice of many eminent gentlemen of the faculty, that, in the natural way, one in four or five generally dies; but, by inoculation, not one of a thousand;

sand; and some can boast of having inoculate ten thousand, without the loss of a single patient.

Fevers and consumptions are the consequence of hard labour, bad food, and colds. They are, therefore, most prevalent amongst the country people. The food of many of the people of this parish is extremely poor. No attention is paid to the advantage of a kitchen garden. The houses, too, are, in several places, wretched huts, scarcely capable of supporting the roof, and far less to defend against the storm and colds of winter. The roads are likewise deep, and impassable; and the insufficient clothing adds to the general train of causes.

It is therefore an object of great importance for the heritors to repair the roads and houses. It cannot be expected that a tenant, for 19 years, will make roads, or build houses, to last for, perhaps, 100. Hence, the poor tenant patches up a miserable rick, with a damp earthen floor, more like a humble sheep-cote, than the rural habitation of the generous farmer. Unless the farmer be strong and vigorous, the landlord cannot expect either a high or a well paid rent; but, by making the tenants feel happy and comfortable, he may depend on a thriving tenant, and an increased rental.

A register of the weather will be inserted, among the general tables at the end of this Report, along with a state of the seasons for sowing and reaping the various crops raised in the parish.

Population.—In the year 1755, the whole number of souls in the parish, according to the report to Dr Webster, were 2730; but at present they amount to 3209, including those employed at the Adelphi cotton-works. A particular account of the population is given in the general tables, shewing the number of families, farmers, tradesmen, &c.
and

and of each particular age, sex, and religious persuasion. The Adelphi cotton-works being lately burnt, about 20 families left Doune.

Language.—The language of the common people in this parish, like many of the parishes in the neighbourhood, is a mixture of Scotch and English. This jargon is very unpleasant to the ear, and a great impediment to fluent conversation. No language is more expressive than the Scotch, when spoken in perfection; and, though the accent be short and unmusical, yet it is by no means disagreeable to hear two plain country men conversing in the true Scotch tongue; but, in this parish, you seldom meet with such instances.—In the quarter towards Callander, the generality of the inhabitants speak Gaelic; and this is perhaps still more corrupt than even the Scotch, in the other quarters of the parish. It is impossible to conceive any thing so truly offensive to the ear, as the conversation of these people. The true Gaelic is a noble language, worthy of the fire of Ossian, and wonderfully adapted to the genius of a warlike nation; but the contemptible language of the people about Callander, and to the east, is quite incapable of communicating a noble idea.

It ought, therefore, to be earnestly recommended to the people of this parish, and, indeed, to other parishes in that quarter, to study a more perfect style; either to practise the true Gaelic, the true Scotch, or the true English tongue.

But all kinds of civilization in society go hand in hand; and when arts and sciences begin to flourish here, the language will gradually polish and refine.

Character of the People.—In this district a simplicity of manners, peculiar to rural felicity, has, for a long time, prevailed. A stranger to deceit, the honest farmer whistles
along

along the lawn, is quite careless of modern refinement, trusting his success and prosperity to the kind hand of providence, and the faithful bosom of the earth. He is now, however, beginning to perceive, that man was not formed a simple passive being, but inquisitive, active, persevering, and industrious. The genial warmth of religion, and the piercing rays of philosophy, begin to expand his ideas; he now perceives, with wonder and astonishment, the extensive powers of the human mind; and, like a man awake from a dream, he starts at the recollection of those wild ideas of uncertainty that formerly employed his imagination. Hence a spirit of activity is fast spreading among the inhabitants of this district; and when once they are completely awake from their past slumbers, it may be reasonably hoped they will soon excel in arts and sciences. There are many laudable examples, of late, held forth by men of spirit and enterprise among them; the genius of commerce and agriculture appears to have visited their borders; and, should they once be sensible of their local advantages, no parish in Scotland will, perhaps, excel this, either in population or wealth.

Towns.—The only town in the parish is Doune. The name originates from the town being situated near by the ancient castle known by that name, which will be explained under the title *Doune Castle*.

It is very probable this town is coeval with the castle; but while public worship was dispensed at Kilmadock this town was very trifling; and when the church at Doune was built, in the year 1756, there were very few houses, except some scattered huts. Since that period, however, the vacancies have been supplied with neat buildings covered with slate.

The

The town consists of one street, of a commodious breadth, running from the bridge of Ardoch, a considerable distance west, to a point where the roads from bridge of Teith and Callander meet. On this point a very neat market-cross is erected; and, passing the cross, the streets divide with the road, each division continuing so far as two bridges thrown across a small rivulet that runs south to the Teith. The three streets, thus situated, form exactly the letter Y.

As formerly mentioned, the situation of Doune is low, but it is very healthful and dry, being close on the banks of Teith, and upwards of 40 feet above the run of the water. This neat town stands on excellent ground for building. The foundation is hard channel, covered with a coat of rich earth for gardens; and this continues a considerable way north, and about a mile and a half west, the banks of Teith, forming a neat level spot, whereon stand the two great cattle markets, held at Michaelmas and Martinmas annually.

There is no public building in the town; but a patriotic gentleman, one of the natives, lately proposed to erect a town-house for public occasions, with a spire, a bell, and a clock, and a market-place behind. The plan is worthy of the gentleman who proposed it; and, it is hoped, the people of the place will put it in execution.

The village of Buchany lies on the Callander road, at the west end of the plain mentioned above, and below the house of Cambuswallace, which stands on the sunny side of a gentle rising ground, commanding a view at once extensive, pleasant, and delightful. From the top of Cambuswallace parks, the eye is presented with an endless variety of picturesque objects, comprehending the river Teith, the village and castle of Doune, the policies of Blair-Drummond, and Stirling Castle.

Buchany

Buchany unites with another village at the burn of An-nat, (here termed the burn of Cambus); and if ever this were to turn a commercial district, these villages and the town of Doune would very soon unite.

There are no other towns or villages within the parish.

Doune Castle.—This is a very noble and extensive edifice. It is romantically situated on a peninsula, at the junction of Teith and Ardoch, to the south-east of the town, commanding a full view of the Teith and bridge, and surrounded with groves and verdant fields. Nature has pointed out this spot as a place of strength, at least well suited to the art of war in ancient times; and, it is more than probable, that, at an early period, this spot was occupied by some fortification, long before the present edifice was erected. This is the more probable, when it is considered, that the present castle was built by one of the Earls of Monteith, at a time when Monteith was a lordship of regality: It is natural to presume, that the family would have called the edifice the Castle of Monteith, after the lordship to which it belonged; but having called it Doune, we may suppose that this was the ancient name of the spot whereon the building was erected.

The word *Doune* is Gaelic, as most of the names of places in this parish are. It retains the exact sound of the Gaelic word *dùn*, which signifies *a round hill or rising ground*, the mark over the vowel *u* signifying that this vowel is sounded long, which renders the pronunciation the same with the present name *Doune*. There is no doubt of this being the origin of the name, for the castle stands on a beautiful mound, at the conflux of Teith and Ardoch, which, of course, would always be called the Mound or Hill, (in Gaelic *Dùn*).

The

The castle is a huge square building, the walls being 40 feet high, and about 10 feet thick. The tower is erected on the north-east corner, and what remains of it is about 80 feet in height; but its massy thickness detracts very much from its appearing lofty. The north-west corner of the castle has been the family-residence. The strong wall mentioned above incloses a spacious square, each side whereof is 96 feet. The great gate stands on the north, and the iron gate and bars still remain entire. There are several cellars and prisons on the ground-floor, on each side of the entry; and, after being introduced into the great area, you ascend to the tower and family-house by two outside stairs, standing over against each other, that appear to have been once shaded by a roof supported with stone pillars, which are now in ruins.

The western stair leads up to a spacious lobby, that divides the kitchen from the great hall. This hall is 63 feet long, and 25 feet wide, and the roof has been covered with stone or slate, but nothing now remains except the walls. The kitchen chimney extends from the one side of the room to the other, being supported by a strong arch still entire; and the whole building, on this side, has the remains of grandeur and magnificence.

The eastern stair leads up to the apartments in the tower. The first is a spacious room, with a pend roof, and a large chimney, containing a middle pillar. This room communicates with the great hall at the north-west corner, and was perhaps the family dining-room. There are several other apartments in the upper stories: but the grandeur of this edifice is completely effaced by those terrible prisons it contains.

From the south-east corner of the dining-room above mentioned, a narrow stone stair descends, and leads, by a subterraneous passage, into a cell or dungeon, that lies below

the north side of the room, into which no light is admitted except what it borrows from a little room above, through a small square hole in the pend roof of the cell, left for the purpose of preventing suffocation, and to let down the scanty pittance of the captive.

In this horrid pit was shut up the unhappy victim of the baron's displeasure, where he lingered out a miserable existence.

O, despotism! sure thy sway eludes the piercing eye
Of gentle freedom, and the ray of glorious liberty;
And, in a cell remote and far from every social right,
Consigns thy victims to despair and universal night!

It is quite uncertain when this castle was built, as no date appears on any part of it. Being the family-seat of the Earls of Monteith, it must have been built while this powerful family had a share of the government. From its structure it appears to be very ancient; and, as the earldoms of Fife and Monteith were in separate families till united in the person of Robert, son of King Robert II. of Scotland, the most probable conjecture is, that this magnificent building was erected by one of the Earls of Monteith previous to the time of Robert.

The first Earl of Monteith (Walter Cummin) was created by Malcolm III. *anno* 1057, and this nobleman was afterwards appointed Lord High-steward of Scotland. This Walter was the grandson of Bancho, who was murdered by Macbeth; and having, with the assistance of Macduff (formerly Thane, now) Earl of Fife, quelled a rebellion that threatened Malcolm, and slain the leader of the rebels, the King immediately conferred this high dignity upon him. In ancient times an officer was appointed in each district for collecting the King's revenues, and administering justice, who was called a Thane, and the superior officer over the whole

whole was called the Abthane. So the title Earl being introduced by Malcolm in place of Thane, the Lord High-steward was in room of the Abthane.

From this Walter, Lord High-steward, the family of Stuar-arts, that reigned so long over Scotland arose; and though there was no doubt a Thane of Monteith before the time of Walter, yet the high dignity conferred on this nobleman affords ample room to conjecture, that the present magnificent castle of Doune was begun, and perhaps finished, in his time. What strengthens this still more is, that Malcolm and his four sons, Duncan II. Edgar, Alexander I. and David I. who reigned successively over Scotland during a period of 87 years, cultivated the arts of peace, and so afforded leisure for such extensive buildings as the castle of Doune. David was himself a very great friend to architecture, having built the noble church at Dunblane, and several others.

Tradition, however, reports, that the Castle of Doune was built by Murdac Duke of Albany, and Earl of Monteith and Fife. But, however much we may be disposed to give credit to local tradition, yet the account of the life of this unfortunate nobleman leaves great room to doubt how far it was possible for him to rear such an edifice. At that time, no doubt, the power of such a nobleman was great; and, having his vassals and dependants ready at his call, he could make a strong effort to rear buildings in a short time; but such a vast building as the Castle of Doune could not be finished for many years.

Murdac was son of Robert, who was son of Robert II. King of Scotland. Robert was created Earl of Monteith, *anno* 1370; and in 1398 he was created Duke of Albany; and in 1406 he succeeded to the government, on the death of his brother Robert III. and governed Scotland 15 years. In

In the year 1401 Murdac was taken prisoner by the English at the battle of Homelden, and detained till exchanged for Percy, 1411; and, on 3d September 1420, he succeeded his father in the government; but, being of a sluggish disposition, and scarce fit to manage his own family, he was obliged to resign the government in 4 years, and so could have neither the time nor judgment necessary for such a building as Doune Castle.

Perhaps it might be contrived by Murdac's father, who was a man of a bold enterprising spirit, generous and humane, and much esteemed by all ranks of people, at home and abroad. But any account of the true date of the castle can amount only to probability.

The misfortunes of Murdac seem equal to his indolence. For after being prisoner in a foreign country 10 years, he led a retired life until the death of his father, when he entered on his short reign of 4 years, as Regent over Scotland, and soon became overwhelmed with the load of state affairs. His resignation was suddenly followed by an accusation of high-treason against him and his two sons, Walter and Alexander, and Duncan Earl of Lennox, his father-in-law, who were seized and carried prisoners to Stirling. Murdac was taken betwixt Doune and Dunblane, at a small rivulet, which was therefore called Murdoch's ford, and it retains that name to this day.

In summer 1423 the prisoners were tried and condemned, and beheaded on one of the Govane hills, to the north of Stirling Castle, about half-way from the castle to the bridge. Isabella, Murdac's wife, being carried from Doune Castle to the Castle of Tantallan in Lothian, the heads of her father, husband, and children, were sent to her in the prison, to try if, impatient of grief, she would reveal the supposed treason; but her answer was noble and elevated: "That if the crimes objected were true, the King had done
" justly,

“justly, and according to law.” Murdac, his lady, and two sons, are intombed in their family burying-place, in a small island of the Loch of Monteith, which lies near the Kirk of Port.

During these lamentable transactions the Castle of Doune, as well as Falkland in Fife, were seized by the King, and remained annexed to the Crown till the year 1502, when Margaret, the daughter of Henry VII. King of England, was married to James IV. King of Scotland, and got settled on her, in liferent, the Castle of Doune, and certain lands in Monteith. After the death of James IV. she married Henry Lord Methven, a descendant of Murdac Duke of Albany. This marriage took place in the year 1528; and immediately thereafter the Queen, with consent of her son King James V. and of her husband Lord Methven, granted to James Stewart, a younger brother of her husband Lord Methven, and ancestor of the family of Moray, the custody of the Castle of Doune for his life; and which right was a few years afterwards converted into a feu to him and his heirs by King James V. This office had been enjoyed by the family of Edmonstone of Duntreath, and occasioned a deadly quarrel betwixt the families, which ended in the assassination of the above James Stewart by Edmonstone of Duntreath. But James, the son of the above James Stewart, obtained full possession of the castle, and was afterwards created Lord Doune, by charter *anno* 1581. Since this period, the castle has remained in the possession of the Earl of Moray's family without interruption.

Agriculture.—The variety of soil in this parish opens a very wide field for agricultural study. There is scarcely a single farm but has a change of soil in it, and hence, by skill and industry, can be rendered fit for almost every crop.

It

It is rather beyond the limits of these Statistical Inquiries to enter into the minutiae of an agricultural survey; but, as the state of agriculture is the most important object, it may be proper to arrange the observations thereon under distinct heads:

1. *Draining*.—The first object of the farmer is to see that the grounds be made sufficiently dry. It is in vain to look for good crops while the ground is wet or spongy. The seed generally rots, and, though it happen to take root, the plant never ripens. By this means, the farmer finds it lost labour to plough or sow these wet and spongy parts of his farm. The parish of Kilmadock abounds with such waste corners, especially where improvements have not made any progress. Almost in every part, even in Monteith and Rows, you see round fields of corn, with the intermediate spaces filled with wet, spongy, and sometimes boggy ground. These waste places are pastured with cattle, attended by a hind, who, being always negligent, allows the field to be eat round the border, perhaps one, two, and in some places three yards deep. This is a very serious concern to the farmer. Indeed his crop generally fails; and, being thus abused by the cattle, what remains will scarce replace the seed, and pay the labour. A single drain would cure the evil. The places that thus lie wet are generally the richest of the farm, and capable of raising the best crops; and, were they properly drained, the whole field would become arable and fit for inclosing. It is unnecessary to mention any particular plan of draining, as this must depend on the situation of the field. There is, perhaps, one-fourth of the parish of Kilmadock requiring drains, that is, presently, almost useless; but which, if drained, would be the most valuable of the whole.

2. *Levelling*.—This is likewise an important article. The parish of Kilmadock is very irregular in the surface. A
few

few well dressed fields are to be seen in the property of eminent improvers, but the rugged face of nature still covers the greatest part. There can be no perfect husbandry unless the fields are regular. A slope in a field is no disadvantage; but sudden hollows, intermixed with mounds, will never yield regular crops. Besides, these hollows are generally wet, while the mound is parched, and thus the field ripens unevenly. Levelling and draining ought, therefore, to go hand in hand. Sometimes the levelling of a field will supply the place of draining; or draining may answer the purpose of levelling.

While the grounds are neither drained nor levelled, it cannot be expected the farmer will perceive the advantage of inclosures. If you suggest the inclosing of a field, the answer is, that, by inclosing and subdividing, the half of the grass (meaning the places requiring to be drained and levelled, and which are used for grass) would then be lost. The farmers should first be taught the practice of draining and levelling; and whenever the useless corners of the fields are brought into culture, an inclosure would become an obvious advantage.

3. *Clearing of Stones.*—The grounds on the north side of Teith are very much infested with stones, that obstruct and break the plough; and several fields are wholly covered over with round bullets, giving the grounds a very waste and barren appearance.

It is unnecessary to mention the propriety of clearing the fields of stones, especially those that obstruct the plough. Carrying stones off a field is gaining so much additional ground, for the trifling expence of carriage. Some farmers will gravely tell you, that the fields are the better of the stones that lie on them. There never was a more miserable excuse for laziness. Stones lying on a field can surely be of no use, except to occupy, perhaps, the half of the surface,
which

which should be covered with corn. Until the practice of laying down fields with sown grass was introduced, every farmer preserved the round bullets of stones on his fields very sacredly ; but, when they came to cut the hay, these supposed friends proved noted enemies to the scythes, and, at length, drove the farmer to the necessity of turning off the stones to save his instruments ; and thus mere necessity introduced the practice of clearing ground of stones. Hence it may easily be marked, in the parish of Kilmadock, what fields have been under the culture of grass, from the smooth surface.

4. *Trenching*.—The most effectual method of draining, levelling, and clearing of stones, those fields that are wet and spongy, is to trench the whole ; yet this useful art is not known here. Trenching, though expensive in the mean time, is the cheapest of all improvements in the end. The reason that farmers soon tire of draining their fields is, because they seldom happen to discover the true springs ; and, when they still observe the water overflowing their fields, they become dispirited, and never make another attempt. The same is the case with stony fields : Though the farmer one year clean the surface of stones, the next ploughing turns up as many ; and country people, being soon discouraged, give up the contest. By trenching the field, the real origin of the springs are discovered, and every stone that obstructs the plough can be taken out. In going over the field, the trenchers have no more to do than place a stake wherever they find a spring ; and, when the whole field is dressed, it can then be considered where the common drain should be placed, so as to communicate with the springs thus discovered. The best drain for such fields is a ditch, filled half up with the round stones taken out of the field, and covered over with a sufficient depth of earth. A field thus dressed

dressed will produce excellent crops, and soon repay the labour.

5. *Straightening Marches and Burns.*—There can never be any real improvements while the marches are crooked and irregular. As heritors have the authority of an act of Parliament for compelling their neighbours to straighten marches, there is no excuse for allowing any to remain uneven. The irregularity of marches is always an objection against inclosing, and the source of endless strife between the tenants.

In the parish of Kilmadock the marches are shamefully irregular. The estate of Cambuswallace was lately inclosed, and the marches straightened, which has had a wonderful effect on the prosperity of the farmers. By the advantages of inclosures and straight marches, the tenants are able to pay an advance rent, and live much better than when their rents were low, and the ground open and irregular.

The straightening of small burns and rivulets is an important article. These feeble streams are generally fond of wandering along a multitude of serpentine windings, occupying an immense stretch if lengthened out in a straight line. By casting a straight ditch in the centre, the whole ground occupied by the windings would be gained, and the links, formerly fanned and useless, could be converted into arable land. Of all other soils these haughs are the richest. They would produce all kinds of grain in perfection, particularly flax; and, when laid down in grass, no pasture would be equal, either for shelter in time of storms, or for succulent food in time of drought.

6. *Dividing Run-rig Lands and Commons.*—There were several farms in this district run-rig, and large tracts of waste common moors, not long ago, but these are all now exchanged and divided, which may be considered the happy prelude of future improvements.

7. *Inclosing*.—The fields being drained, levelled, cleared of stones, and trenched where necessary, the marches straightened, and interspersed fields exchanged, inclosing then becomes an obvious advantage.

There is scarcely more than one-tenth of the parish of Kilmadock inclosed and subdivided, though excellent stones for dikes could be got almost every where, and hedges could be reared over three-fourths of the grounds.

The grand objects of inclosing are, the safety of the crop from cattle, and the ease of the cattle while feeding; either of which advantages are alone sufficient to recommend a fence. It is a serious matter for a farmer to have, perhaps, the breadth of one or two yards round his fields destroyed by the cattle. It is a proposition in geometry, that the smaller the area the greater is the circumference in proportion. Hence, the smaller the field, the greater is the damage from the cattle.

The parish of Kilmadock, where waste and uninclosed, is ploughed in detached fields, while the intermediate spaces are used for pasture. The consequence is obvious: That the circumference or border of each field is abused by the cattle, or the grass lost; either of which is a very serious disadvantage to the farmer.

With regard to the ease and safety of the cattle, the difference of open from inclosed fields is beyond calculation. A cow is an animal that is fond of ease, and never thrives under the management of a hind. A cow, again, loves to crop the morning dew, and to rest at noon. The hind, on the contrary, cannot rise betimes, and is therefore under the necessity of feeding the cattle in the heat of the day, when they wish to lie down and rest. A cow is likewise fond of lying down at evening, without the fatigue of travelling far to her bed; the hind, on the contrary, drives her home to the stall, where she is tied to a stake like a criminal. In short,

short, the advantage of inclosures for cattle can only be reckoned by experience. The strongest proof of their excellence is this circumstance, that no grazier who once knows their value will ever after rent open uninclosed fields.

8. *Rotation of Crops.*—There being few inclosures in Kilmadock parish, rotation of crops has made very little progress. In the district above the Teith, the absurd practice of having infield and outfield still prevails. This practice is the strongest mark of the imperfect state of husbandry in former times. When wheel-carriages were little used, and dung was the only manure, the farmers constantly spread it out upon the fields near the dwelling-house, and these fields were, on that account, commonly in tillage every year. The fields at a distance received no manure at all, except the produce of the pasturing cattle, and these were inclosed in temporary folds, in the middle of the day and during the night, erected on the arable outfields, and moved (or, in the more emphatic term of the farmers, flitted) at the end of every week. These fields, when thus manured, were ploughed the next year, and one or two crops more taken, and then allowed to sward for grass. Here, in a peculiar manner, was felt the loss of sown grass. Independent of the want of a crop of hay, the field, from the dreary stubble, required two or three years to render the grass of any use for pasture. The cattle were extremely fond of the infant grass, and constantly poached and destroyed its growth; and thus the farmer generally lost the use of his grass fields for at least 2 years in every 8 or 10. How very different their situation under the new husbandry. By taking a hay crop, the farmer reaps more profit than from having the field in corn; and, during the growth of the hay, the roots of the grass spread and cover the surface with a strong coat, capable of supporting the feet of the cattle the following year, when the pasture is rich, fresh, and

and abundant. Of all improvements in husbandry these hundred years, sown grafs may be ranked among the most valuable.

While it is generally acknowledged that plants rob the soil, it is at the same time admitted, that they rob it in different degrees, some more, and some less, according to their nature, and manner of receiving food. These evident truths at once suggest the idea of change; as the farmer perceives it of importance to arrange his succession of crops as may be least hurtful to the soil, and, at the same time, most profitable on the whole. Hence, the practice of rotation of crops.

The advantages of this discovery are manifold: Having a variety of crops, the farmer divides the labour of the year. He is in no risk of the field not agreeing with the crop. And he can supply the market annually with all kinds of provisions.

An account of the various rotations observed in this parish will be given among the general tables.

9. *Size of Farms.*—The farms in the parish are of various sizes, as will be seen in the general tables. Formerly this parish abounded with cottaries; but these are now quite abolished, except a very few; and, of late, the farms have been considerably enlarged in many places, owing, partly, to the increasing independence of the farmer from his once miserable condition as a military bondman; but the chief cause is the introduction of the arts, whereby bodily labour has been so wonderfully saved. The farmer, in ancient times, seldom reared any crop but oats, a little barley, and peas. With these he sowed his infield constantly, and his outfield occasionally, when not in grafs. Hence, a small farm rendered him hurried in time of seed and harvest, and the manufacturing it occupied his whole labour during winter. In summer he was literally idle! In these enlighten-

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ed days the farmer is ploughing, sowing, and reaping, every month of the year. Wheat, rye, oats, barley, peas, beans, clover, and rye-grass, flax, hay, potatoes, turnips, and other roots, are crops that afford work to the farmer in all seasons of the year, and hence he is enabled to manage a much larger portion of ground than under the old system. And when the improvement of roads, implements of husbandry, mode of labour, &c. are brought into the calculation, it is at once plain how large farms have been introduced.

It is said that large farms depopulate the country. This, however, is a conclusion that can only be drawn from a partial view of the subject. There are two species of labour, unproductive and productive. Unproductive, is that labour that barely supports the labourer; productive, is that labour that supports the labourer, and leaves a balance. The balance is produced to the commonwealth, and so lessens the labour of others. If one year a man supports himself only, and the next year he supports himself and his wife, he doubles the population; if he supports himself, his wife, and a child, he triples the population, and so on. Hence, the more labour produced by art or industry, the greater is, or may be, the population.

From these facts, it is plain, that if the enlarging of farms has not been owing to an increase of labourers on these farms, but to art and industry, that the population is thereby increased. The population on the farms is indeed much diminished; but the increase of the provisions brought to market from these farms must evidently be capable of supporting an increase of population. If this increase of provisions be exported for a supply of luxuries, the art and industry of the laborious farmer, no doubt, disappears, and is wasted at the pampered tables of those who, in these days of vice, profligacy, and licentiousness, are falsely denominated

ted the Great. That man alone can be called Great, who, having once produced the necessaries of life in abundance, by art and industry, deals them liberally around to feed a multitude. But he who spends his time in sloth and idleness, and squanders and wastes the labours of the year in riot and dissipation, is a being of all others the most wretched.

When the population of the country happens to appear on the decrease, it ought not therefore to be concluded, that the enlarging of farms is the cause. We ought rather to count the dishes that now garnish our table, and compare these with what graced the humble board of the fires of ancient times.

In ancient times, the sacred plough employ'd
The kings and awful fathers of mankind :
And some, with whom compar'd your insect-tribes
Are but the beings of a summer's day,
Have held the scale of empire, rul'd the storm
Of mighty war ; then with unwearied hand,
Disdaining little delicacies, seiz'd
The plough, and greatly independent liv'd.

THOMSON.

10. *Leases and Rent.*—The rents are now generally paid in money, and all personal services are abolished. The tenants perform statute-labour on the high-roads, and pay all public burdens, such as cess, &c.

The Earl of Moray frequently makes his rise-rent progressive, at the end of 5, 7, or 10 years, of a 19 years lease. This is an excellent method, and ought to be generally adopted. Towards the end of a lease, where the rent has been the same from its commencement, the tenant is dispirited at the prospect of a high rent, and when the rent is raised, his stock is exhausted during the first 3 or 4 years,
and

and it is a hundred to one if he is able to continue. But when the rise-rent is progressive, the tenant has no occasion to dread the issue of his lease, because, unless the improvements be great, there is no variation from one of the common rises in the progressive scale. Hence, he is always active and industrious, and never defers improvements for the commencement of a new tack.

As to the duration of leases, various opinions have been formed. Without pretending to judge of a point so uncertain, it may be noticed, that the duration of a lease must depend greatly on the situation of the farm. If a grass farm, the only use of a lease is to afford the tenant time for breeding the cattle, and disposing upon them. Cattle thrive best on the ground where they have been reared; and the uncertainty of markets renders it dangerous for a grazier to be a tenant from year to year only.

As to arable farms, a variety of circumstances have to be considered. 1. The state of culture. 2. The manure to be used. 3. The rotation of crops. If the ground be waste, and in need of improvement, the tenant should have his lease lengthened to encourage him. If the manure be quicklime, he cannot be removed so long as the powers of the lime remain active. This may be from 6 to 10 years. If marl is used, the lease must be longer, as this manure lasts a considerable while. If a rotation of crops be observed, the tenant cannot be removed during the rotation.

From these circumstances, it is plain, that the duration of a lease must depend much on the nature of the farm, and the plan of management.

11. *Houses*.—The houses are much improved of late. The tenants now begin to perceive the advantage of good houses, and of living separate from their cattle.

On the south side of Teith you meet with several very neat houses, of two stories, covered with slate, and
handsomely

handsomely finished within. The offices stand on each side, with tile-roofs, forming a rural square, at once pleasant, warm, and hospitable. Farm-houses of this construction are now becoming general; yet, in many places, the houses are no better than what they were 30 or 40 years ago; cold, dark, footy huts; scarcely a pane of glass to be seen; roofs of thatch, rushes, heather, or broom; the cattle and people entering at the same door; earthen floors; the fire on the hearth-stone, and scarcely a vent or chimney. It is lamentable to behold the exalted character of the generous farmer degraded by such miserable habitations.

But the error lies on the side of the masters. If a tenant's lease is to last only 19 years, he either builds no fences or houses at all, or of such a nature as to last little longer than the lease. Indeed, if he acted otherwise, he would be injuring himself. In all transactions, at home or abroad, every thing should be reduced to the test of calculation. It is manifest injustice towards a tenant to take him bound to erect dikes or houses that ought to last at least 100 years, and give him only a 19 years lease. None but fools, madmen, or poor ignorant tenants, shuddering before their laird, would bind themselves so absurdly. The tenant ought neither to improve, plant, nor build, without payment. Neither should he bestow manure, to last longer than his lease, without a reasonable allowance at the issue. All that the tenant, in justice to himself, ought to do, is, to labour and use the land to the best advantage, so as not to leave it worse or poorer than he received it. With regard to improving waste ground, and building dikes and houses, the proprietor should pay the whole outlay, and charge the tenant with a certain interest annually. This plan was practised with the tenants of Cambuswallace some years ago, and the example is fast spreading over the parish.

12. *Roads.*—The by-roads of the farmers, all over the parish, are in a wretched condition, and absolutely impassable through the one half of the year. The carts and harnesses are generally shattered and broke in a few journies; and hence the horses, carts, and harness, constantly wear the marks of poverty, and, instead of performing the work with vigour, both men and horses soon languish and decay.

It is, however, pleasant to observe the situation of the farmer who studies improvements, who has a comfortable habitation, and good roads; the fresh bloom of contentment is seated on his countenance, his motions are spirited and active, his implements of husbandry appear as if fresh from the hand of the painter, and his vigorous horse is seen pawing in the valley.

13. *Implements of husbandry.*—While the lands were infested with stones, the implements of husbandry were extremely mean; but good ploughs, and harrows of the best construction, are now every where to be seen. Yet, where the grounds remain wet and stony, the labouring utensils are still imperfect. What is termed the broad-plough is still used on the north side of Teith. In this plough 4 horses are yoked abreast, with a goadman or driver placed before the horses heads, with his face towards the ploughman; and in this position the driver *walks backward*, striking the horses in the face to make them come forward!—The brake and cleaning-harrow are little known. The late Colonel Edmonstone of Newton introduced the new-invented turnip drill-plough; but the farmers only looked and wondered at it, as they would at a rope-dancer. Several eminent farmers have, however, shewn noble examples of good husbandry, and are beginning to open the eyes of their neighbours, from their farms appearing like so many gardens, in the midst of a bleak uncultivated country.

Thrashing-mill.—This is one of the most ingenious and most useful inventions that has, perhaps, ever appeared in the world.

The first inventor was Michael Stirling, farmer in Craighead, in the parish of Dunblane, who died in the 89th year of his age, on the 1st of February 1796. This venerable old man, when in the prime of life, had a strong propensity to every curious invention; and, after much thought and study, he prepared and finished a machine for thrashing his corn in the year 1748, having employed tradesmen to execute the work under his direction.

The axis of the thrashing-board, was placed perpendicular, and was moved by an inner wheel, on the same axis with an outer one that went by water. The men stood round about these boards like lint cleaners, each man with his sheaf, and performed the work with great rapidity.

Mr Stirling's ignorant neighbours were, however, no way struck with the invention, but laughed at it, and called him *a maggotty fellow*. In short, like Noah with his ark, poor Mr Stirling was surrounded only with mockers, and at length he concealed his operations altogether. The wonderful powers of the machine, however, soon drew the attention of strangers, who came and picked up models, and so were enabled to erect others, both in Scotland and England. Mr Stirling's machine, in one short winter-day, thrashed 50 threaves of stiff outfield corn, yielding 16 bolls of oats, which would have taken 16 days of one man to thrash with the flail. This account was got from William Stirling, farmer in Craigforth, one of Michael Stirling's sons, who is a very respectable man, on whose report the public may rely.

Mr Stirling's mill being perpendicular, was found rather inconvenient, and therefore Mr Meikle at Alloa, an ingenious gentleman, constructed a horizontal axis for the thrashing-

ing-boards, by adding another wheel, which had a wonderful effect, as the sheaf could be spread so as to be taken in and bruised by rollers; and this likewise saved a number of hands.

A particular account of the powers of this machine, and the saving to each farmer, will be given in the appendix.

Manure.—There has been no limestone or coal hitherto discovered in this parish. The only local manure, therefore, is dung, which is far from being sufficient for the lands; and the farmers have to carry lime, as well as coal, from Stirling, Sauchie, and other places, an average distance of 12 miles to the parish in general. Hence, the ground continues low rented, the time of the farmers being occupied during summer in carrying home lime and coal. A small navigable canal would be of the utmost importance to the heritors, independent of the saving of carriage in general; to shew which, a general view of the expence and profit is given in the appendix.

No manure is superior to the clay or mud collected in the bottom of rivulets and burns. Many of these run thro' this parish; and, were the farmers only at the pains to spread the scourings of these burns on their fields, they would find more benefit from it than even lime. It enlarges the stock of fertile earth, and mellows the soil. Yet few farmers think of this. Prejudice and custom rule every action of our lives; and even those who have taste and judgment to make experiments, are driven by the multitude into the practice of what is common. A little time, however, will ripen every improvement, and bring it to perfection.

Drying-Kilns.—Preparing corns for the mill is an important article. Not long ago, the common practice in this parish was for each farmer to have a kiln of his own. The market.

market was therefore filled with bad meal, lost in the drying, from the insufficiency of these rickles of buildings to perform the work. Besides, there were many melancholy accidents from fire. These, and some other causes, have now made way for the introduction of brick kilns, which have become general.

It would be a capital improvement to erect a kiln at every corn-mill, to be attended by an experienced dryster, hired by the thirled farmers. The kiln might be so placed that the grain could be conveyed from the kiln-head to the mill-happer, by having both on a level, and a loft from the kiln-head to the happer. Observe the profit of such a plan. In the common way, the corn has to be put into sacks, loaded, and carried to the mill; there unloaded, and carried up a stair, by strength of arm and back alone. All this labour would be saved by the plan above mentioned, besides having the corn immediately grinded when ready.

Major Main of Powis Logie, an ingenious gentleman, and one of the most eminent improvers of the country, has favoured me with a description of a drying-kiln of his own invention, erected at Powis, which is given in the appendix.

Mills, and Sale of Grain.—The Deanston cotton-mills will be mentioned under a separate title.

There are seven mills in the parish for the manufacturing of grain, viz. Doune, Cambus, Candy, Lanerick, Cessintully, Auchleshie, and Argaty, and there is an old corn-mill at Callichat, which has not been used for some time.

There is no object requires greater attention than the establishment of proper corn-mills, because here all the labour of the year centers. Yet no branch of police is more neglected than proper rules between millers and farmers.

The

The evil arose from the abominable servitude of thirlage, and will continue so long as this servitude lasts. The landlord binds his tenants to go to his own mill, and this mill he lets for rent, supposing, by this plan, to increase his rental. There never was a greater deception. The multure due to the mill is classed with public burdens, and so lessens the neat rent paid to the master; but were the tenant free, he would give a rise-rent double the amount of the rent drawn by the landlord of the mill. The reason is obvious: being bound to one mill, the multurer grows insolent, gives bad service, and imposes on the tenants. Hence the multitude of law-suits for abstracted multures. Why am I well served by my tailor and shoemaker?—Because he is afraid of losing my custom. The same is the case with millers; and the servitude of thirlage is fast wearing out.

The common public places for the sale of grain are Stirling, Kippen, and Callander. Since the erection of the Adelphi cotton-mills, a considerable market has been opened in Doune. The average distance to markets may be reckoned 8 miles. An account of the fiars of Perth and Stirling shires is given, among the general tables, in the appendix.

Wages.—The wages for all kinds of work may be reckoned good. A principal man-servant, for farming work, gets at present from L. 10 to L. 12; an inferior one from L. 8 to L. 10; a woman-servant from L. 3 to L. 5, besides bed, board, and washing. The labourers, in time of harvest, are of three classes; the first are hired for the whole time of harvest; the men receive L. 2, the women L. 1, 4 s. each, with bed and board; the second class are hired by the day, a man at 1 s. a woman at 9 d. with victuals; the third class are paid by the hour, a man 2 d. a woman 1½ d. This
last

last class are commonly the inhabitants of Doune, Buchany, and Burn of Cambus.

An account of the various wages of other kinds of labour is given, among the general tables, in the appendix.

Black-Cattle.—Owing to the want of inclosures, the black-cattle of this parish make but a poor figure at the Doune markets. The whole cattle, including young and old, kept on the parish are about 2243. Now, the whole area of the parish being reckoned 64 square miles, or 40,960 acres, and supposing one-tenth to be heath and moss producing no grafs, and another tenth to be occupied by roads, houses, fences, and strips of planting, there remains 32,768 acres; one-third whereof (10,922) will be commonly in tillage, and the other two-thirds (21,845) remain for grafs. This grafs would be of various quality; the best might admit 1 cow on each acre, but other places might require 2, and perhaps 3 acres to each cow. However, counting old and young beasts, 2 acres may be allowed on the average to each beast during summer, whereby no less than 10,922 cattle might be supported, were the grounds inclosed and subdivided, and properly laid out.

Of the cattle presently on the parish, one half are milch cows, the other half are young cattle. Now, valuing each cow's grafs at 20 s. and 10 s. for the feeding of each young beast, we can draw the following comparative state :

Present Stock 2243.		New Stock 10,922.	
Grafs of 1121 cows, at 20s. L.	1121 0	Grafs of 5461 cows, at 20s. L.	5461 0
Ditto of 1121 young beasts,		Ditto of 5461 young beasts,	
at 10s.	560 10	at 10s.	2730 10
Total L.	1681 10	Total L.	8191 10
Abstract.			
Grafs-meal of the new stock,	-	L. 8191 10	0
Ditto of the old stock,	-	1681 10	0
		Clear gain L. 6510 0 0	

Horses.

TABLE of the POPULATION

Age.	Above Teith.				Below Teith.				Town of Doune.				Burn of Cambs. and Buchany.				Abstract.		
	Males.	Pro-age.	Females.	Pro-age.	Males.	Pro-age.	Females.	Pro-age.	Males.	Pro-age.	Females.	Pro-age.	Males.	Pro-age.	Females.	Pro-age.	Total men.	Total Females.	Souls.
1	13		12		14		15		19		43		3		7				
2	8		12		6		10		12		28		4		1				
3	8		7		6		9		22		24		3		1				
4	10		11		7		10		19		20		4		1				
5	10		9		6		8		9		20		2		1				
6	18		7		10		8		21		11		6		5				
7	7		9		6		8		9		15		1		1				
8	6		9		12		15		11		16		3		1				
9	7		5		5		3		5		4		1		1				
10	8	95	9	84	12	90	6		10	137	13		1	28	2	22	344	396	740
11	4		4		3		3		1		2				1				
12	15		10		10		12		13		13		2		1				
13	6		5		3		1		2		2				1				
14	14		10		16		10		12		10		2		1				
15	5		9		5		2		7		5		2						
16	13		12		12		18		6		3		2						
17	7		7		10		1		3		1		1		3				
18	7		21		18		23		11		15								
19	2		2		3		31		1		1								
20	41	114	35	100	20	101	14		12	68	14		1	11	1	8	293	290	583
21	2		1		1		1		3		2								
22	9		3		4		4		5		13				5				
23	5		2		19		10		4		4								
24	4		14		7		9		3		14		1		5				
25	4		4		3		4		2		14				5				
26	6				6														

TABLE of the POP

Districts.	Families.	Residing Heritors.	Farmers.	Cottars.	Merchants.	Weavers.	Shoemakers.	Tailors.	Gardeners.	Masons.
Above Teith.	115	1	95	15		2	1			
Below Teith.	119	1	93	17		2	1			
Town of Doune	238		2		8	7	9	9	2	13
Buchany, &c.	57					4	2	2		3
	529	2	190	32	8	15	13	11	2	16

N. B. The People of the Adelph

Horses.—The breed of horses are much better now than formerly, though great room still remains for improvement. Not long ago four-horse ploughs were common over the parish, each of which animals, though scarce able to support their own weight, would eat as much as the horses that now plough in pairs.

The whole horses at present in the parish are about 662, whereof about 577 are farm-horses. These last will consume annually 4936 bolls and $1\frac{1}{2}$ lippies of corn, allowing a lippy and a half to a horse each day; which, at 3 d. *per* lippy, comes to L. 3948 : 16 : 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ Sterling. So that when 4 horses were yoked in each plough, in place of 2, the number would be double, and the expence L. 7897 : 13 : 9 Sterling. Were oxen used in place of horses, the whole of the above corn would be saved, which would maintain 705 men, allowing 7 bolls to each; and, taking the inhabitants of all ages, it would support double the number, being 1410 persons, which is one half of the present inhabitants of the parish, which, at first view, may surprise, but the calculation will hold good.

If we reckon the inhabitants of the parish of Kilmadock, exclusive of the people of the Adelphi, to be near 2800, and the horses 570, there is about one horse for every fifth soul, which is a serious concern to the nation. In the parish of Kilmadock there are several farms with 4 horses each, which, at L. 10 each horse of maintenance, makes L. 40 each farm; and the average rent of each farm will not exceed L. 30. So if the heritor would recommend oxen in place of horses, he might put the L. 40 in his pocket, and save the expence of purchasing and upholding the horses to his tenant, as oxen would live on grass and turnip, and after 5 years labour would bring more money than their prime-cost.

Sheep.

Sheep.—There are no sheep in the parish except about 1986, kept in the Braes of Doune, the moor of Lanerick, and in Cambusmore; and even these do not thrive well. The grounds are better adapted for black-cattle than sheep.

Markets, Price of Provisions, &c.—There are 6 annual fairs held in Doune, at the following terms, Martinmas, Yoole, Candlemas, Whitsunday, Lammas, and Michaelmas. The 2 at Michaelmas and Martinmas are large cattle markets, little inferior to the famous trysts of Falkirk.

Provisions are cheaper here than at Stirling. Beef at $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. butter 10 d. and cheese at 3 d. *per* lb. and eggs at 4 d. *per* dozen; while in Stirling market beef is at 5 d. butter 1 s. and cheese $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. *per* lb. and eggs at 6 d. *per* dozen. These articles rise and fall according to the seasons; and the price of meal, barley, and others, is regulated by the price of grain, as stated in the annual fairs.

Heritors and Rent.—The valued-rent of the whole parish, as stated in the cess-books, is L. 9163, 14 s. Scots, and yet there are only 16 heritors, great and small. The greatest heritor is the Earl of Moray, he being proprietor of about one-third of the whole parish; and the other heritors valued-rent appears in a list of the whole, stated in the appendix.

The real rent at present is about L. 7500 Sterling; and a great number of the leases being near expired, a considerable rise will soon take place. The greatest advantage a parish can enjoy, is to have all the heritors residing on the spot, because, wherever these gentlemen take up their abode, there they spend their money.

The only resident heritors at present are, Murdoch of Gartincaber, Buchanan of Cambusmore, and Buchanan of Kirkton. The whole other heritors reside at a distance,
and

and so carry off annually very near six-sevenths of the rents, very little whereof returns to the place. No wonder, therefore, that the place is poor, wanting the presence of the greatest heritors, and furnishing such an immense quantity of labour annually to strangers.

Church, &c.—The parish church stood at Kilmadock till the death of Mr Napier, about the year 1756, when a new church was built in Doune. The first incumbent of the new church was Mr James Smith, a very meek and reverend divine, who filled the pastoral charge for no less a period than 36 years, and then resigned it, with his life, amidst the tears and sorrow of his whole flock, among whom he lived with that unity and mutual affection which alone constitutes the happiness and prosperity of any people.

Though the church be removed to Doune, the most of the ancient families bury at Kilmadock, where the minister still resides, with his manse and glebe. The new settlers are, however, taking off layers at the new church-yard of Doune, and so the burying-place at Kilmadock will soon be deserted.

There is a Burgher meeting-house at Bridge of Teith, which was erected about 40 years ago. The affability of Mr Smith kept the people together, so much so, that the whole parishioners still adhere to the establishment, except a few families who attend the congregation at Bridge of Teith; and a few more who have joined the society of Antiburghers at Dunblane.

There was formerly an Episcopal meeting held in Doune, which was dropped on the death of Mr Rose, the last incumbent.

Stipend, &c.—The stipend is payable partly in money and partly in meal; and, in consequence of a late augmentation,

tion, prosecuted by the present minister, the stipend may, on an average, be reckoned L. 150 annually. The minister has also the manse and glebe of Kilmadock, which contains six acres of rich land, equal in quality to any within the parish, *as church-lands generally are*. The manse was lately repaired, and a very excellent set of new office-houses built by the heritors.

Kilmadock manse is a situation exactly suitable to religious retirement, and is more central to the parish in general than Doune, which stands rather to the east side. If the population increase, a chapel of ease, or a new erection will, be necessary, when the church of Kilmadock may be rebuilt, and the inhabitants thus well accommodated.

Schools, &c.—The parish school is held at Doune, and is generally well attended. Mr William Young, the present schoolmaster, is a very industrious teacher, and has kept the school with great success for a long period back.

There are at present 70 scholars, 45 at English, 20 at arithmetic and book-keeping, and only 5 at the Latin language. The school wages are extremely moderate, 1 s. 3 d. for English, and 2 s. 6 d. for arithmetic, book-keeping, and Latin, *per quarter*. The schoolmaster has besides a free house and garden, and his perquisites as session-clerk and precenter. His fixed salary was formerly only L. 100 Scots, but the heritors very properly augmented it to L. 200 Scots. The fees of proclamations, on 3 Sundays, are, 1 s. 8 d. to the poor, 2 s. to the clerk, and 6 d. to the officer; on 2 Sundays, 2 s. to the clerk, 3 s. 6 d. to the poor, and 6 d. to the officer; and on 1 Sunday, 6 s. to the clerk, 10 s. 6 d. to the poor, and 1 s. 6 d. to the officer. There appears a mistake in giving the clerk only 2 s. for 2 Sundays, when he gets the same for 3. There are about 60 baptisms, and 24 marriages annually. The fees of baptisms are, 10 d. to the

the clerk, and 2 d. to the officer; but those who attend Bridge of Teith, Noriefton, Dunblane, and Callander, from the parish of Kilmadock, are not regular payers of the fees.

There are feveral other private fchools in the parish, for teaching Englifh and the rudiments of writing; but the boys in the country are in great danger of colds from bad roads. Foot-paths on the fides of the high-ways fhould become general, which would be a great eafe to the children in bad weather.

The Society for Propagating Chriftian Knowledge lately gave L. 10 of falary for a charity fchool at the weft end of the parish, near Callander; and Mr Buchanan of Cambusmore, very much to his honour, prefented the fchoolmafter with a fchool and fchool-houfe, and garden, free. They are placed on the road from Callander to Craigton, about a Scotch mile eaft of Callander, on a gentle rifing heath, that is quite dry and healthful, and finely expofed to the weftern breeze. There cannot be a finer fituation for a village; and, were a proper road made along from Callander by the Heads, Craigton, Annat, &c. to join the Dunblane road by Kilbryde, communication would be opened in the upper parts of the parish, where, at prefent, no perfon can travel.

Of all other objects of the legiflature, proper teachers, and proper parochial fchools, is the moft important; and, with all refpect and deference to the office and dignity of our reverend divines, it is humbly fubmitted, if a diligent, fober, pious teacher of youth, be not an equally exalted character, and equal, if not more ufeful, towards the propagation and eftablifhment of vital religion, morality, and virtue. The illuftrious King of Ifrael was deeply fenfible of this, when he faid,

Train up a child when he is young

In the way wherein he ought to go,

And

And when he is old

He will not depart from it.

It is, therefore, much to the honour of those who are attentive to the situation of schools. In general they are quite neglected; the salaries of the masters are shamefully small, and the school-wages too low. In place, therefore, of giving such liberal augmentations to the clergy, it had been more wise in the Commissioners to have conferred part of it on the parochial teachers.

Police.—Anciently the administration of justice was committed to the Steward of Monteith, and his deputies, who held courts in Doune. In 1748 this heritable jurisdiction, along with the others within Scotland, was annexed to the Crown; and was valued at L. 1200 Sterling. Since this period the Sheriff of Perthshire has held courts for this district at Dunblane, which renders it very inconvenient for the inhabitants, that town being situated on the east side of the district. The Commissary of Dunblane has likewise a jurisdiction over this parish. Besides these two judges, the Justices of the Peace take an active share in protecting the commonwealth.

Poor.—There are no private donations, or hospitals founded, for the poor of this parish, neither have the heritors ever been assessed. They are, however, liberally supported from the collections at the churches, and by private charity, and common begging is now almost quite gone.

The situation of this parish, with regard to the poor, is a strong proof of the baneful consequence of overgrown hospitals. Innocent misfortunes are always mentioned as an argument in favour of hospitals. It is no doubt an amiable virtue to relieve the distresses of a suffering fellow-creature; but cases of this nature ought to be thrown on pri-

vate

vate charity alone, which usually exerts itself in a most effectual manner; and the common poor should be provided by the public. It is an important matter to make charity command gratitude and industry. Private charity effects this most completely: The indigent person knows that the eyes of the donor is upon him, and that if he is idle and insolent the donation will be withdrawn. Hence, gratitude excites his industry, and fear commands his respect. But, when a set of gentle beggars are put on the roll of hospital pensioners, they conceive themselves only obliged to the public, that is, nobody. The funds, they say, are their own, and they have none to thank. Hence, they forget their true situation, and become ungrateful, insolent, and lazy.

Let the parish of Kilmadock rejoice that she is free of such nuisances; let her cultivate sobriety, industry, and virtue, and, while prosperity smiles on her borders, affluence will garnish her table, and contentment gladden her heart.

Manufactures and Commerce.—This parish may be said to be wholly destitute of any commercial traffic or regular manufacture, except the Adelphi cotton-work. A list of the different tradesmen is given under the title population.

For some time past Doune has been noted for excellent slaters, who have acquired superior reputation in that trade over all the neighbouring country, particularly Glasgow, Hamilton, Dunbarton, &c. where they have been invited to contract for all kinds of modern buildings, in preference to the slaters of other places. They work in these towns during summer, and return to their families during winter; and some of the more industrious among them learn other trades, such as weaving, shoemaking, &c. which they practise when the season will not permit the work of slating.

The

The skinning business was once carried on in Doune, but it is now quite gone.

In this town also was carried on, for some time, the manufacture of Highland purses. That trade is also no more.

The only remains of any of the ancient branches of trade is the making of Highland pistols. The reputation of Doune for this manufacture, about the time of the German war, was very great.

This art was introduced to Doune about the year 1646, by Thomas Caddell, who, having been instructed in his craft at Muthill, a village in Strathearn in Perthshire, came and settled in Doune. This famous tradesman possessed a most profound genius, and an inquisitive mind; and, though a man of no education, and remote from every mean of instruction in the mechanical arts, his study and persevering exertions brought his work to so high a degree of perfection, that no pistols made in Britain excelled, or perhaps equalled, those of his making, either for sureness, strength, or beauty. He taught the trade to his children, and several apprentices, of whom was one John Campbell, whose son and grandson carried on the business successively with great repute. While the ancient dress of Caledonia, that is, the philabeg, belted plaid, pistols, and dirk, was wore, the pistols made in Doune excelled all others, and acquired superior reputation over France, Germany, &c. A pair of pistols, superbly ornamented, were fabricated by a tradesman taught in Doune, and, by the City of Glasgow, given in compliment to Marquis de Bouillé. The above Mr Campbell's grandson, who has now given over the business, made pistols to the first nobility in Europe, as Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, the Hereditary Prince of Brunswick, the Duke of Cumberland, and others. The trade is now carried on by John Murdoch, also famous for his ingenuity in the craft, and who has likewise furnished pistols to the first nobility

nobility of Europe. These pistols were sold from 4 to 24 guineas a-pair. There is now very little demand for Doune pistols, owing, partly, to the low price of the pistols made in England; but the chief cause of the decline is the disuse of the dirk and pistol as a part of the Caledonian dress; and, when Mr Murdoch gives over business, the trade, in all probability, will become extinct.

Adelphi Cotton-works.—These are very extensive works, erected on the south banks of Teith, to the west of Doune, for the spinning of cotton-yarn. The great wheel is moved by the water of Teith. The mill is a large elegant building of several stories, erected about 12 years ago by Mr John Buchanan of Carston and his brothers, gentlemen of much enterprise, who having removed to another work at Balfron, several years ago, the Adelphi mill was taken up by an English company, and is now conducted by Mr Benjamin Flounders, a gentleman of exemplary character, and much esteemed in the place.

This extensive work has constantly employed about 700 persons, for whose accommodation all the ruinous houses in Doune have been repaired and rebuilt; and Mr Murdoch of Gartincaber has built a street of houses on the south side of the Teith, with a convenient garden to each, now called the Newtown of Doune.

The workmen are paid by the quantity and quality of their work, and hence they have become extremely dexterous, and some hands will make about 2 guineas *per* week.

The yarn spun at this mill is esteemed very excellent, and finds a ready market every where. There is none of it weaved in Doune or the neighbourhood.

The high wages earned at this work has affected almost every other branch of business in the parish; and, for a while after it was commenced, the consequence was very distressing.

distressing. So many people collected in one house refined each other in all manner of wickedness. The duties of the family were neglected; the Sabbath was profaned; the instruction of youth was forgotten; and a looseness and corruption of manners spread, like a fatal contagion, every where around. The allurements of high wages at this work raised the price of all other kinds of labour; and, what was worst of all, servants became insolent, disobedient, and careless. The confinement of so many people in one house rendered the air they breathed very impure; the heat necessary in preparing the cotton kept the workmen constantly in a sweat, and extracted the nourishing juices; the noise of the machinery rendered them soon deaf; and the flying particles of cotton, and constant labour of the eye in watching the texture of the threads, weakened and destroyed the sight.

The laudable conduct of Mr Flounders, and the other managers of the work, has, however, wrought a very great reformation of these abuses, and in a great measure provided remedies to the evils mentioned above. The workmen are now sober and respectable, and the children are watched with vigilance and care.

The illustrious Mr Dale of Glasgow, in his attention to the government of young persons at his works, is a noble example to others. He employs a teacher, who oversees them at all times of the day, and, at certain hours, instructs them in the principles of religion, and teaches them reading, writing, arithmetic, &c. He presides over them at table, and performs the office of chaplain; the boys sit on one side of the table, the girls on the other: and in this order he conducts them to church. Laws and rules are framed for their government, and rewards and punishments annexed. In fine, this gentleman may be called the benevolent

volent father of a numerous family, and a bright luminary to Scotland.

Post-office and Carriers.—There was lately established a post-office in Doune and Callander, with a runner between these towns and Dunblane every Sunday, Tuesday, and Friday, which is of great use.

There is also a weekly carrier from Doune to Stirling, another to Callander, another to Dunblane, and sometimes one to Kippen.

Antiquities.—The Castle of Doune is the most eminent antiquity in this district.

The ancient monastery of St Madocus, now called Kilmadock, where the late church stood, is quite demolished, and perhaps was pulled down to build the church. To this monastery belonged six chapels within the parish.

The first stood on the south banks of Teith, at the end of the bridge, where part of the building is still to be seen. The adjoining lands, now the property of Mr John Forrest, were annexed to this chapel, and hence received the name Dean's-town.

The second stood on the south-east of the house of Row, also close by the north side of Teith, part of the foundation whereof is still visible.

The third chapel stood on the west brink of the glen of Annat, on a round hill, which still retains the name of the Kirk-hill, and the marks of graves are still visible. The name Annat has its origin from this chapel; Ann or Annat meaning the first fruits of every benefice; and the lands of Annat were perhaps at that time annexed to the chapel.

The fourth was at Lanerick, and the remains of the building has been for a long period used as a burying-place

for the family of Lanerick. The chapel likewise stands on the south banks of Teith.

The fifth was on the banks of the same river, at Torry, opposite to Cambusmore, and the place is now covered with wood.

The sixth was erected at Walton, a little east of Thornhill. This last is quite demolished, and not even the foundation to be seen.

Some years ago several graves were discovered below Rosshall house, in the estate of Cambuswallace, which were inclosed with 4 stones each, in the form of the ancient tombs of Caledonia, but no bones remained; from which it is evident these graves are very ancient. It is remarkable, that, before these graves were discovered, there was a tradition among the people of the place, that a battle was once fought near this spot between the families of Rosshall and Craigton, and that several men were killed in the fray. The tombs discovered were perhaps the graves of these chieftains.

Natural Curiosities.—In former times, it appears, the river Teith made a beautiful winding from Doune Castle round the hill of Dairah; but, having forced a way through to the river Ardoch, below the Castle, deserted its former channel, and the old track is now dry, and mostly covered with planting. It is this old water-track that forms the most delightful part of Blair-Drummond policy. Tradition says, that the Castle of Doune was built from a quarry below the mound, and that the neck of land was thus cut away, whereby the river got through by its present course. This account has very strong marks of probability, though we cannot vouch for its being certain.

In the banks of the water of Goody several oak trees project from the braes, about 20 feet below the surface of the
the

the clay ; and, where this river joins Forth, one of these trees, covered with the same depth of clay, projects near 20 feet, and the trunk is near 6 feet diameter. Several shells have likewise been turned up from the clay in this carse.

Moss Flenders (part of which belongs to this parish) abounds with natural curiosities. Some years ago several logs were found in the moss, squared, and lying along each other in the form of a float, and the marks of the ax was visible on them. Here also was found a piece of a ship. A Roman causeway has also been discovered along the bottom of the moss, running in a direction of south-east to north-west ; but these particulars belong more properly to the account of the parish of Kincardine.

Advantages.—From the preceding observations it is evident, that the parish of Kilmadock has many advantages. 1. It lies in the centre of Scotland, and has intercourse with all the kingdom. 2. The two great roads pass through it. 3. It contains an excellent soil, affording scope for all manner of agricultural study and research. 4. The climate is healthful, mild, and friendly to cultivation. 5. It is exposed to the sun, and defended by mountains on the north and north-west, and there is easy access to all parts of the grounds. 6. It abounds with natural springs, rivers, and burns, and contains very fine situations for cattle in time of storms. It enjoys the waters of the Teith for a space of 10 miles, where multitudes of water machines can be erected, and hence is well adapted for commerce and manufactures. Above all, it commands a grand view of hill and dale, of mountains and vallies ; it has ample provision for its poor, and is free of hospitals and all such *mortifications* ; it enjoys peace and contentment, and is not rent asunder by civil or religious contests.

Disadvantages.

Disadvantages.—It is also plain this parish has many disadvantages. 1. It wants coal and lime. 2. It wants good roads and bridges. 3. The grounds, in many places, are too wet. 4. There are no plantations. 5. There are few inclosures. 6. The tenants have bad houses. 7. The whole parish is subjected to the grievous bondage of thirlage.

Proposed Improvements.—Such being the advantages and disadvantages of this district, the remedies become very obvious. Communication ought to be opened by new roads and bridges, and the old roads and bridges repaired. Coal and lime should be brought from Stirling, &c. by navigable canals. The wet grounds should be drained and made dry. The barren ground and waste places should be filled with planting. The open grounds should be inclosed.

The people would then be roused to activity; agriculture would swell the fields with grains; the cattle thrive and become numerous; manufactures flourish and prosper; arts and sciences polish and refine; the people become a multitude; and religion, morality, and virtue, lock society secure in the arms of affection and love.

APPEN-

A P P E N D I X.

TABLE of Produce from the various Soils.

Crops.	Carfe clay <i>per acre.</i>	Till <i>per</i> acre.	Loam <i>per</i> acre.	Sandy soil <i>per acre.</i>
Wheat,	8 bolls.	none used.	none used.	none used.
Rye,	8 ditto.	none used.	none used.	none used.
Oats,	7 ditto.	6 bolls.	6 bolls.	5 bolls.
Barley,	7 ditto.	6 ditto.	6 ditto.	5 ditto.
Peas and beans,	7 ditto.	6 ditto.	5 ditto.	5 ditto.
Clover and rye-grafs,	200 ftone.	200 ftone.	150 ftone.	150 ftone.
Crops.	Increase <i>per acre.</i>			
Flax, Turnips, Potatoes,				

TABLE of Seed-time and Harvest.

Crops.	Seed-time.	Harvest.
Carfe clay.		
Wheat, -	30. September 1795.	11. August 1796.
Beans, -	6. March —96.	In September —96.
Oats, -	20. March —96.	15. September —96.
Peas, -	30. March —96.	In September —96.
Barley, with grafs and clover, }	15. May —96.	25. August —96.
	15. May —96.	In June 1797.
Loam.		
Oats, -	30. March —96.	In September —96.
Peas, -	16. April —96.	In ditto —96.
Barley, with grafs and clover, }	30. May —96.	In August —96.
	30. May —96.	In June 1797.
Till.		
Oats, -	30. March —96.	In September —96.
Peas, -	16. April —96.	In ditto —96.
Barley, with grafs and clover. }	30. May —96.	In August —96.
	30. May —96.	In June 1797.
Sandy foil.		
Oats, -	20. March —96.	1. September —96.
Peas, -	16. April —96.	In ditto —96.
Barley, with grafs and clover, }	20. May —96.	12. August —96.
	20. May —96.	In June 1797.
Potatoes,	10. April —96.	1. September —96.

REGISTER of the WEATHER.

Kept by Mr Edward Burn at Coldoch.

Years.	1790.				1791.				1792.				1793.			
Months.	Fair.	Frosty.	Rain.	Wind westerly.	Fair.	Frosty.	Rain.	Wind westerly.	Fair.	Frosty.	Rain.	Wind westerly.	Fair.	Frosty.	Rain.	Wind westerly.
Jan.	15	8	8	24	8	—	23	21	9	13	9	11	16	11	4	16
Feb.	11	2	15	27	7	6	15	21	15	8	6	16	8	3	17	20
March,	14	10	7	19	20	—	11	27	8	—	23	23	22	—	9	12
April,	13	13	4	8	25	—	10	9	25	—	5	14	26	—	4	4
May,	25	—	6	18	25	—	6	20	21	—	10	15	28	—	3	17
June,	17	—	13	16	26	—	4	16	25	—	5	11	24	—	6	17
July,	18	—	13	15	23	—	9	24	18	—	13	16	26	—	5	14
August,	14	—	17	12	27	—	4	17	22	—	9	6	20	—	11	16
Sept.	19	—	11	21	28	—	2	15	14	—	16	19	27	—	3	18
Oct.	23	—	8	20	16	—	15	10	12	—	19	9	19	—	12	27
Nov.	15	9	6	6	18	—	12	14	12	8	10	15	16	6	8	2
Dec.	11	10	10	24	2	17	12	26	8	7	16	20	11	—	11	12
Total,	195	52	118	210	219	23	123	220	189	36	141	175	243	20	93	175

TABLE of WAGES.

Weaving work.			Shoemakers work.		
Cloth.	Breadth.	per yard.			
Harn,	near 1 yd.	from 2 d. to 4 d.	Mens shoes furnished,	L. 0	6 6
Linen,	1 yd.	from 6 d. to 8 d.	Womens ditto,	0	5 0
Duffle,	5 quarters,	- 6 d.	Boots,	1	5 0
Country grey,	1 $\frac{1}{8}$ yd.	- 4 d.	Tailors work.		
Plaiding,	1 ditto,	- 3 d.	Making a man's coat,	L. 0	3 0
Blankets,	1 ditto,	- 4 d.	vest,	0	1 0
Temming,	$\frac{3}{4}$ yd.	- 3 d.	breeches,	0	1 6
Druggat,	from 1 to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ yd	from 6 d. to 1 s.	Masons work.		
Lint and cotton					
napkins,	1 yd. square,	from 6 d. to 9 d.	Master per week,	- L. 0	15 0
Teiking,	$\frac{3}{4}$ yd.	from 6 d. to 10 d.	Journeyman per ditto,	- 0	12 0
Sacking,	$\frac{7}{8}$ ditto,	- 3 d.	Labourer per ditto,	- 0	7 6
Table-cloths,	from 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 yd.	1 s. to 2 s. 6 d.	For rouble work per rood,	1	5 0
Towls,	1 yd. square,	from 6 d. to 9 d.	Wrights work.		
Smith work.					
Working iron for implements of husbandry and other heavy work, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lib. Smaller work in proportion to the size and quality.			Master per week,	- 0	14 0
A new horse-shoe, and putting on, 6 d.			Journeyman per ditto,	0	9 0
One shoe removing, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.			Slaters work.		
In Stirling iron is sold at 3 s. 6 d. per stone.			Master per week,	- 0	15 0
			Journeyman per ditto,	0	14 0
			For piece-work per rood,	0	15 0

TABLE

NUMBER IV.

PARISH OF WALLS AND SANDNESS,

(COUNTY OF ORKNEY AND ZETLAND, PRESBYTERY OF
ZETLAND.)

By the Rev. DAVID THOMSON.

Name.

THIS ministry is composed of the united parishes of Walls, Sandness, Papastour, and Fowla. The origin and meaning of these names are more conjectural than certain. They are supposed to belong to the Norse, the original language of the country. It is believed by some authors, that the names of places ending with the syllable *wall*, were places where courts of justice were anciently held, some of which might have been in this parish. Sandness, or Sandness, has probably its origin from the situation of the district so called, and from the nature of the soil. It is situated in a *ness* or headland, almost surrounded by the sea; and the soil is light and sandy. *Stour*, which signifies great, is annexed to Papa, to distinguish it from other islands

of this country, of the same name, as being much larger than any of the rest. *Fowla* may have had its name from the very great number of fowls which frequented that island. But, as the names of places are chiefly of Danish or Norwegian extraction, it is more likely that this island had its name from thence, and may have been anciently written *Fule*, a corruption of *Thule*. That this island is the *Ultima Thule* of the ancients, concerning which various conjectures have been formed, is pretty evident, not only from the analogy of the name, but also a more undoubted testimony. Speaking of Agricola the Roman general, when in Britain, regarding his victories, and the distance to which he penetrated towards the north, Tacitus has these words, “*venit domuitque Insulas quas vocant Orcades, despectaque Thule.*” Now, *Fule*, or *Thule*, which is lofty, is easily seen, in a serene day, from the north part of Orkney.

Situation.—These united parishes are situated in the stewartry of Orkney and Zetland, and in the presbytery of the latter, which is composed of 12 members, and whose proceedings are alone cognisable by the General Assembly. Walls and Sandness lie on the most western part of the mainland, and exhibit a triangular form, having the parish of Aithsting and Sansting on the south-east and east, as the base, and surrounded with the ocean on the other sides. There is a *voe*, or inlet, called *Gruting Voe*, 4 miles deep, which separates Walls from Sandness, and possesses a deep and safe anchorage. These parishes of Walls and Sandness are in length 7 Scotch miles, and 6 in breadth. They are much intersected with voes. The surface of the ground in Walls is diversified with small eminences. Papa is 2 miles in length, somewhat more than 1 in breadth, and lies at 1 mile's distance from the mainland. It is flat, and extremely agreeable in summer. When the season is mild, it produces

duces very rich crops of bear, oats, and potatoes. Being partly sandy, it agrees best with sea-weed for manure, the want of which has frequently reduced the place to scarcity; though in plentiful years it can afford a considerable supply to other parishes. The grass it produces is remarkably rich. It labours, however, under two great disadvantages, the scatald, or common, is very small, and the fuel is neither good nor plenty. It has several small voes, which serve as secure harbours for fishing sloops during summer. These sloops, when the weather is favourable, leave the land on Monday, and stay at sea upon the fishing bank till Saturday, when they put a-shore the fishes they have caught. Each sloop has generally 4 six-oared boats that accompany it. They go to a very great distance from the land. Here the Northumberland Company, for the Improvement and Extension of Fisheries, have had for some years past 3 or 4 vessels stationed for the catching of cod, tusk, and ling; but as their exertions were accompanied with greater expence than the Shetland fishing, they seem to be giving it up. They have been equally unsuccessful in their attempts upon the coast for the lobster fishing. There are some beaches in this island, in which the fish are cured; and convenient houses have been lately erected by the proprietor, and let annually at a moderate rent.—Fowla is 3 miles in length, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in breadth. It is situated at the distance of 18 miles from the nearest land. This island is very bold and steep on the west side. The inhabitants are remarkable for being active and alert rowers. There is only one landing place, called *Ham*; it lies on the east side, and is generally, during summer, occupied by 16 fishing boats, 11 of which belong to Walls. This island is inhabited by 26 families, who, although there is not sufficient land for supporting them with provisions, yet, they are so attached to the place, that they are unwilling to leave it; rather choosing to put
up

up with its many inconveniences than to emigrate. The island has excellent and extensive pasturage for sheep and cattle. Some of the inhabitants are very expert in catching wild fowls in the rocks, for the sake of their feathers, which are sold at a considerable price. This induces them to go to places almost inaccessible; and by which attempts some have lost their lives.

Soil, Climate, Diseases.—Throughout the whole ministry, the soil is rather thin and sharp; and, being mostly cultivated with the spade, makes, in general, very good returns. In the inland parts of the parishes a deep moss prevails, and a short heath, affording pasturage for sheep and horses, of which the latter go wild. The ground, towards the sea, is hard and verdant, and hither the sheep repair in the inclemency of winter, as the banks are not so deeply covered with snow as in the interior of the country; and they abound with sea-wreck, which, in a severe storm, proves an agreeable morsel to the sheep.—This place, from its being much environed by the sea, possesses a moist air, which very soon corrodes iron; but, being impregnated considerably with saline particles, is not unhealthy. Here there are no complaints of the ague, which is not the case in districts abounding with fens and bogs, at a distance from the sea. Fogs are frequent in the months of July and August, but have no malignant influence.—The diseases most prevalent are rheumatisms and fevers, supposed to originate chiefly from heats and colds. Consumptions frequently occur, and are believed to arise from the same cause. Some of these, and other diseases, may perhaps be more malignant, owing to the difficulty and expence of procuring medical aid. Fevers, thereby, are more inveterate, and are very contagious. In the island of Papa leprosy was very frequent in former times; and so alarming was it, that collections were made in

in several parts of the country for the support and cure of the numerous persons affected with it. The common belief is, that it was produced in consequence of the people having eaten too great a quantity of fish, not properly prepared, some wet seasons succeeding, which kept the peats (their only fuel) from being fully dried. The lepers were kept in small huts, erected on purpose, apart from places inhabited. Fuel and victuals were carried to the doors of their miserable hovels, and the persons employed in this charitable office avoided all intercourse with them. Thus left to themselves, and poorly sheltered, it is to be presumed, that many became victims to this shocking distemper. Some persons would, perhaps, be doomed to this solitary and wretched existence, upon being seized with cutaneous disorders, which, with a little assistance, might have been easily removed; but which ignorance, and fear of infection united, might have judged proper to be thus separated. Shut out from society, sequestered from their friends, what a joyless life must they have dragged out? Humanity, at the recollection of this, drops a tear. Few instances of this trouble have appeared within these last 50 years. The session records mention, that a day of public thanksgiving was observed in the ministry, in the year 1742, when this disease was almost extinguished. The small-pox have seldom visited these parishes, but at times have made terrible havock. At the beginning of this century, the *mortal-pock*, as it is called, caused great devastation, carrying off whole families. In the island of Fowla, which contained a number of families, only a few persons were left, to perform the last office of humanity to their brethren. Being averse to inoculation, a very great number of aged persons have never had the small-pox. The young people avoid infection, in the natural way, as much as they can; and are not much inclined to inoculation, lest they communicate the contagion to their friends

friends in advanced life. By this means the evil is continued. Many, however, lately submitted to this salutary operation, and only a few died.

Lakes, and Sea-coast.—There are a great many lakes throughout the ministry, but none so considerable as to merit description. They are only serviceable as reservoirs for the rain which descends from the adjoining hills, affording water for small mills, erected on them for grinding corn. Some eels and trout are found in them. These sheets of water are hurtful to sheep, in time of deep snow and frost, as they sometimes go upon them when frozen, to reach green holms, or small islands, in the middle; and, when the thaw succeeds, they are prevented from reaching their ordinary pasture.—From the almost insular situation of the ministry, the sea-coast must be very extensive; but cannot easily be ascertained. A good chart of the coast, and bearings, is laid down by a Captain Preston. Not much kelp is made on these coasts.

Fish.—Various kinds of fish are caught on the coast, as ling, cod, mackerel, haddocks, hoes, or dog-fish, skate, pillocks, and fillichs, and sometimes herrings. These last are fluctuating and uncertain; but are excellent in their kind, and, when well cured, fetch a higher price at market than those caught on the coast of Scotland. Ling is the principal fish caught here. They are fished on a bank from 30 to 60 miles distant from the shore. This bank is called the *Haaff*. To this ministry belong 42 six-oared boats, and 16 of four oars each. The large, or six-oared boats, carry each 6 men; and the small carry 3 or 4 men, who are either too young, or too old, for being employed in the larger fishing. The *Haaff* fishing begins about the first of June, and lasts till Lammas, when the night becomes too long for
its

its further prosecution. The following is a statement of what each boat, at a medium, will produce during the time the fishing lasts; and what each man's share of the profit comes to, after all expences are deducted.

Each boat will, at an average, have <i>per annum</i> ,	}	500 ling, at 4 d. each, =	L. 100	Scots.
		8 cwt. cod, at 2 s. 6 d. =	12	
		6 cwt. tusk, at 3 s. 4 d. =	12	
		One barrel of oil, =	16	

Total gain, L. 140 Scots.

When, from this, L. 64, 16 s. Scots of expences are deducted, there remains L. 75, 4 s. of clear profit; which, divided among the 6 men, yields L. 12 : 10 : 0 $\frac{4}{5}$ Scots, clear profit, to each. The expences chiefly consist of the following articles :

12 Lispond meal, * at 3 s. 6 d. <i>per</i> lispond,				
makes,		L. 24	4	0 Scots.
$\frac{1}{2}$ Anker gin, at 16 s.		9	12	0
Tobacco, at 1 s. 8 d. a roll to each man,		6	0	0
Hooks,		6	0	0
Boat hire, at 5 s. to a man,		18	0	0
Total expences,		L. 64	16	0 Scots.

Tides and Creeks.—The tides are very rapid on the coast; and in Papa Sound the current is so strong, that a boat, in crossing, must make a large curve, to prevent being carried out of its course. In this Sound the *Baas* of Hogsetter, which are sunk rocks, will often rise suddenly, even when the sea is smooth around; and were they not carefully avoided, would overwhelm any boat. Nay, it would be dangerous

* The lispond is 32 lib. English.

dangerous for larger vessels to approach them too near. They lie on the east side of the entrance of the Sound, from the south. The middle of the channel is perfectly safe. There is a perpendicular rock that stands in the sea, a little out from the island of Papa, very difficult of access, on which are the remains of a house, said to have been built by a gentleman of property, when about to leave the country, with a view to secure his daughter, who was in love with one inferior to her in station. But Cupid, descending in a golden shower, found admission, by bribing her guardians.—The chief creek is Vaila-Sound, in Walls, and has its name from an island so called, lying at the entrance; but may, more properly, be denominated a voe, as it runs about a mile within land. On this island John Scott, Esq; of Melbie, the principal heritor of the parish, resides. It is about a mile in length each way.

Minerals.—Lime-stone, free-stone, and slate, are found in Sandness; but are of an inferior quality. Slates from Eisdale have of late been used.

Fowls.—Swans and wild geese are seen in the spring, passing to the northward, in great numbers. They rest, for some time, upon the sheets of water in the ministry, and go, as is supposed, to Iceland, where they hatch, during the summer; and return in the autumn. Sea fowls are various and plentiful.

Cave.—There is a large natural cave in the island of Papa, and has three entrances, through which the sea ebbs and flows. It is so wide as to allow a large boat to enter with the oars at full length on each side; and becomes gradually larger as one advances towards the centre, where it is beautifully arched. The direction being crooked, it is dark in
the

the middle, a circumstance which feldom fails to ftrike with awe the mind of the beholder. The leaft noife increafes the folemn impreffion. It divides into feveral apartments. Beyond the centre, there is a fmall aperture in the top, that admits a feeble light, for the direction of the boat.

Population.—There is no account on record, within the parifh, of the number of inhabitants in a former period; but, in a printed account, *anno* 1774, of the Society for Propagating Chriftian Knowledge, there is a ftatement of the population in the refpective parifhes, which, if it is accurate, fhews the numbers to be increafed. Walls contained 756 fouls; Sandnefs, 468; Papa, 240; Fowla, 130. In all 1594. The population, in 1755, according to Dr Webfter's account, was 1450.

In November 1792, there were living in Walls, 762 fouls; in Sandnefs, 533; Papa, 285; Fowla, 143. In all, 1723.

Under 10 years of age,	-	-	424
Between 10 and 20,	-	-	350
Above 20, married and unmarried,	-	-	835
Widowers and widows,	-	-	114
			1723

Abstract of the baptifms, marriages, and burials, for five years previous to 1793.

Years.	Baptifms.	Marriages.	Burials.
1788	24	15	20
1789	29	10	19
1790	48	12	26
1791	44	17	23
1792	28	6	38
Total, 173		60	126
Yearly average			
nearly,	34	12	25

In the list of burials, might have been included 5 person that were drowned at sea. There are about 6 persons at an average to a family.

The parochial register, previous to the year 1788, was very inaccurately kept. Numbers of private baptisms were not inrolled, nor burials marked.

The increased population, within these 20 years past, may be owing to the farms, originally small, being frequently subdivided. A young man, inclining to marry, and being accustomed to go to sea, his master furnishes him with a residence, by dividing a former tack. This place, and, indeed, the country at large, is by far too populous, by which means the inhabitants are kept poor; there being no manufactures established. One reason why few young men remain unmarried, is, because, if not married, they are sure to be fixed upon, by the landmasters, for the service of the navy, when a draft for that service is required from the country; and rather than be forced from their native soil, and the society of their friends, they will submit to many inconveniences. Many of the young men, however, lately enlisted for the navy, being induced by the prospect of obtaining prize-money, when fighting against the Spaniards, in the view of a war respecting Nootka Sound. Such as have at any time revisited their native country, bring with them a taste for finery, which they introduce among their young acquaintance, by no means consistent with their narrow circumstances. Many of the young women, in the character of servants, go to London, Edinburgh, &c. in the Greenland ships.

Agriculture.—In plentiful seasons, there is as much corn raised as supplies the inhabitants, and they are enabled to afford some assistance to other less plentiful parishes. Bear, equally good with any in the north of Scotland, is raised in Sandness, and Papa. Oats are sown about the middle of
March

March, and bear in the end of April. Harvest in the beginning or middle of September.—Cabbages are produced in great plenty, and form a great part of the winter food of the lower people. They are considered as a good corrective of scorbutic habits. Kitchen-stuffs grow to great perfection; but, from being too near the sea, shrubbery will not thrive.—A great number of horses are reared; but as the inhabitants, at least in Walls, do not in general employ them in drudgery-work, as in other parishes, they are allowed to run wild in the common. They are so hardy, that they receive no maintenance from the owners, even in the winter season. They live to a great age, when domesticated. They are sold in great numbers every year to Orkney-men, who come to this parish, and other places in the country, with quantities of linen, which finds a ready market. The horses are small, as the people always imprudently sell the most likely young ones, and do not preserve proper breeders, by which means the breed is much diminished in size. Vast numbers of swine are also produced; but, as they go wild in the common during the summer season, they are very injurious to the pasturage, by rooting and digging it up. They are often also hurtful, by seizing upon young lambs, and eating them. But, owing to a complaint, lately lodged against them, their number is greatly diminished.—The sheep were lately numbered by the tacksmen of the teinds, and were found to amount to about 8000.

Imports and Exports.—Household-stores, for those of better stations, are imported from Leith and Hamburgh: and salt, deals, boats, fishing-lines, hooks and meal, are imported for the use of the seamen. The exports are the same as in other parts of the country, such as ling, cod, tusk, oil, herrings

herrings, butter, beef and hides: all of which, except the ling, are sent to Leith.—Formerly Dutch and Hamburgh merchants traded to this country, and carried off the products, bringing such necessaries as the people needed.

Heritors, Rent.—There are twelve heritors, but seven of them hold very inconsiderable property. They all reside in the ministry, except three.—The rent of the parish cannot easily be ascertained, because the tenants are obliged to fish to their landmasters, at a stipulated low price, besides paying a small rent for the land they possess. No valuation has ever taken place in the country. The fishing-farmer, as he may be called, has his lands for about 5 s. or 6 s. a merk; but being obliged to fish to his landlord, and receiving from him a lower price for his fish and oil than he could otherwise obtain, the proprietor thereby increases his rent considerably. But the quantity of products annually being casual, makes it still more difficult to establish the just rent.

Church.—The living of the minister is casual, depending annually on the state of the tithable subjects: but the teinds have been let for L. 66 Sterling, including 7 merks of glebe-land, which lies at a distance from the manse. The half of the corn-teind of Papa, paid *in ipsa corpora*, retained in the incumbent's own hand, and valued at L. 6 Sterling, forms part of the stipend. In all, it amounts to L. 72 Sterling *per annum*. There is a process of augmentation now (1797) pending before the Court of Session, for these nine years past, and it is supposed will be determined soon. The vacant tithes, from which the augmentation will arise, are about L. 20 Sterling. The glebe is not considerable in value.—Lord Dundas of Afke

is the patron.—The present incumbent was admitted minister in April 1787. His predecessors were Messrs Thomas Henry, Laurence Umphray, William Umphray, James Ogilvy, George Duncan, James Buchan, who held his office 43 years, John Inches, who was translated to Nesting, in this presbytery, and was succeeded by the present incumbent.—The church of Walls was built in 1746, and is very commodious, and well finished in the seating, being all pannelled work. The church of Sandness was built in 1792, in which year also the church of Papa has been repaired, but still very incomplete. The manse was built in 1780, and is neat and well finished.

Poor.—There are a good many poor in the ministry, who receive assistance from the poor-funds, and who are stationed at the same time in their several districts, a certain number of families being assigned them for their maintenance. They get money from the box to purchase clothes and shoes; and, if the families among whom they are placed fail in granting supplies, meal is likewise procured for them. Reduced families, who cannot be stationed upon the public, receive from the poor-funds as they can afford. The people are disposed in general to be humane and charitable. The weekly and sacramental collections are the only fund for supplying the poor; the latter of which are pretty liberal for a people who are in mean circumstances, and among whom money is scarce. They amount yearly to about L. 9 or L. 10 Sterling; and as good is sometimes educed from evil, the fines which arise from those who transgress the rules of the church, contribute likewise to the supply of the poor. The exact amount of the funds cannot be well known.

Schools.

Schools.—In the island of Papa there is a mortification of three merks of land, by a piously disposed person, for the purpose of benefiting a reader in the church, who catechises the people there; reads a religious book on the Lord's day; sings and prays, when the minister cannot attend for public worship.—There is a parochial school established in Walls, and the Rev. Mr Buchan modified 40s. *per ann.* besides the legal salary (L. 10 Sterl.) In the island of Fowla there is a charity-school, with a very small salary, of only L. 3 Sterl. *per ann.*—Several itinerant preachers were settled in this and some neighbouring islands, who officiated a part of the year in each. These islands, lying at the distance of seven or eight leagues from their respective ministries, were frequently deprived of the stated ordinances of worship. But, by residing a great part of the year among the people, these itinerants were of much advantage to them. It is a long time since they were withdrawn, and the people have of course much degenerated in their morals and Christian knowledge; at least this is the case with Fowla; for the minister has been accustomed to go only once a-year, in mid-summer, to that island, where he stays eight or ten days: during which time he frequently preaches, catechises the inhabitants, and baptises their children. But all his ministerial labours among them, in so short a time, can be of small advantage for their information, and for guiding them in the path of duty. Now that the society is put in a capacity, from the late acquisition of their funds, for extending their beneficence and humane influence, it would surely be fulfilling their pious aims in an effectual manner, were an itinerant again appointed to these islands. The charity-schoolmaster reads, during the year, to the inhabitants, every Sabbath-day, in some religious book, furnished by the minister.—There was a charity-school erected in Sandness,
in

in the year 1742, with a salary of L. 7 Sterling *per annum*, which continued a short time, when the then schoolmaster resigned his office. Upon this event, application was made to the Society for the school being continued, and a young man was sent from this country, to be examined for that end. Although he did not give that full satisfaction expected, yet he was not rejected, but was remitted for further improvement. This has been since laid before the Society, accompanied with a Presbyterial representation, but no appointment has taken place, (1793), though the young man officiated as teacher for some time after his return, in the hope of being preferred.—The minister, on account of his having more than one place of worship, cannot preach above once a month in Sandness, even although his tours should be regularly performed; but, through the inclemency of the weather in winter, and other unavoidable causes, he cannot be there above eight or nine times in the year. To supply this deficiency, and to engage the inhabitants in a suitable manner on the Lord's day, the charity-schoolmaster was wont to convene them in the church, read a sermon-book, and catechise them, as they were at the distance of six miles from the church of Walls. Should the Society be graciously disposed to grant a re-establishment, it would greatly contribute to the interest of religion, and good morals; as the people are too poor to have schools of their own erected, and are now paying their proportion to the legal schoolmaster in Walls. Now (1797) are two charity-schools in Sandness and Papa, with a salary of L. 10 Sterling *per annum* from the Society, proportioned between the two schoolmasters.

Price of Provisions and Labour.—Beef is sold for about 1½ d. *per lib.*; veal, from 1 s. 2 d. to 1 s. 6 d. whole, with
the

the skin ; a sheep, fit for slaughter, from 2 s. to 3 s. 6 d. ; a lamb, for 1 s. ; a swine, unfatted, for 3 s. ; a goose, 8 d. ; a hen, 4 d. ; a dozen of eggs, 1 d. ; butter, 4 d. *per merk*, which is a pound and a quarter Dutch. In the spring, fowls and eggs advance a little in value, as many are carried to Lerwick, where they fetch a higher price from the Greenlandmen who put in there.

A man-servant has, for three quarters of the year, L. 1, 4 s. and has the summer quarter to himself, when he receives a fee from L. 18 to L. 22 Scots, for fishing at the Haaß. A woman-servant has L. 9 Scots a year, when employed in husbandry. A house-servant has from L. 9 to L. 15 Scots *per annum*.

Fuel.—Peats are the fuel used by the inhabitants. They are easily procured, and are excellent of their kind, except in the island of Papa, where they are sandy.

Names of Places.—Most of these are derived from the Norwegian language, and have, like all original languages, a local signification : Such as, *Goard*, which denotes a dwelling ; *Gorsta*, a division between lands ; *Rickanefs*, a point of land for grazing horses ; *Houll*, or *Houlland*, an habitation on an eminence ; *Holm*, a small island ; *Voe*, an inlet of the sea.

Antiquities.—The remains of eight Pictish buildings, called Broughs, are found in the ministry ; but none of them seem to have been considerable. There is a pretty large one, erected on a small island or holm, situated within a loch, called *Burgo Water*, very regular for those rude times, and has an artificial causeway leading to it from the shore, in a serpentine form, the better, perhaps, to deceive an enemy,
as

as it is somewhat under water. Unacquainted with the mechanic arts, it is surprising how the ancient people conveyed together, and erected, such large stones as compose these rude fabrics. As these buildings are not all similar, either in bulk or shape, it is probable they were used either as forts or places of strength; places of observation, or watch-towers; or places of worship. When large, having a double or triple wall around, as is the case of some such buildings, they may be denominated fortresses, or places of residence, whither the inhabitants retired for shelter in times of danger. When these Pictish erections were meant as watch-towers, they were smaller in size, were only single walled, and were placed on eminences, from which signals might be displayed, and seen, when an invasion threatened the inhabitants. Such are always in the view of some other one. Others, that are small in bulk, and yet so situated as not to be seen by any other, were probably places where superstitious rites were performed. There is the vestige of one of these latter buildings, that stands on a piece of ground jutting into a sheet of water that lies contiguous to the manse. It is surrounded with the water, except in front, and has a small causeway leading to it. Beside the circular building in the middle, there is a range of large stones, that runs across the neck of land, and may have been intended to inclose the spot, as a place of burial, which the building does not occupy.—There is a stone, very long, that lay time immemorial in the churchyard of Papa, but was lately built into one of the corners of the church, which stone has all the appearance of having been used as an anchor to a ship, before iron anchors were used. It is about eight feet in length, and two in diameter. It has a groove, continued on each side the whole length, turning narrower towards both ends, in which a rope would be

placed, and to which the cable would be fastened. If that has been its use, it must therefore be pretty ancient.—There is a copper basin, seemingly very ancient, belonging to the church of this place, which is used at the time of baptism. It is said to have been given in a present by a Dutchman or Bremener, together with a bell for the church, and a silver cup of curious workmanship, originally used for holding the collection for the poor. The cup was enlarged, and is now used as one of the communion cups : But the basin remains as formerly, and exhibits the figure of our Saviour at an altar ; the form of a dove over him, emblematical of the Holy Ghost descending on him : and an angel is represented in the attitude of kneeling, and holding in one of his hands a sceptre, with a cross on the top, shewing him to be an archangel, or some dignity in the heavenly hierarchy : In the middle there is the figure of a pot, with two hands, having something like flowers growing out of it ; perhaps these are emblematical of the fruits of righteousness, and the increase of the Saviour's kingdom among men. A mutilated font is placed at a corner of the church-yard.

Miscellaneous Observations.—Since the baron bailies were suppressed, by whom petty differences were cognosced, the minister is necessarily much troubled with the quarrels that arise among the people, who are at a distance from the seat of justice, where they might obtain redress. The task is unpleasant, yet, should these differences be entirely overlooked, though of a civil nature, unchristian conversation would more generally prevail.

Where manufactures and useful employments are established, the populousness of a country forms its riches and strength ; but where these are wanting, too much population

tion becomes its burden. It is like a ship's company reduced to short allowances. Such is the case with this country.

Besides, the farms are by far too small, many of them, within these forty years being split into triple the number. This has proceeded from the impolitic rage for prosecuting the fishing; but it is accompanied with hurtful consequences to the tenants, as the smallness of their farms keeps them in indigence. It tends only to enrich the landmaster for the present, as he takes the products at a much lower price than would be given by a neutral merchant; he having the same labour from one that has only a few merks of land, that he had from the tenant when possessing, formerly, a much greater quantity. Having little land, the tenant can rear few cattle to bring him cash to pay his rent, and procure such things as he may need: Whereas, in former times, by possessing more, and being allowed to remain thereon throughout the year, without being forced to fish for the landlord, he was better able to pay his rent, and could live in a more comfortable and substantial manner. From the want of leases, and the tenant's being frequently obliged to have recourse to his landmaster for supplies in his exigencies, it renders him servile and obsequious. That manly independent spirit, which characterizes a free-born Briton, and prevails among the peasantry in the south countries, is here lost.—As the tenant has only a verbal tack, he promising to fish for the landmaster, and to give him all his products, and to remain upon the land during pleasure, this proves a bar to all improvements, as he knows not if he will reap the benefit thereof longer than one year. Knowing that he cannot obtain the same price from his master for the articles he has to dispose of, that another would

would give him, the tenant is often tempted to trespass his contract; and, when found out, (which is most frequently the case), he is fined at discretion, or has a summons of removal immediately executed against him. This is subversive of every virtuous principle, and introduces a low cunning and chicanery in the transactions of the people.

Note—It frequently happens, that a cold north wind prevails in the month of May, which retards vegetation very much; and in wet and moorish ground gives birth to the slug, or what is here called the *storey-worm*, which wholly destroys the grain. Heat and moisture are extremely favourable in producing other reptiles; but heat destroys the slug. It shrinks from the sun, if exposed to its rays, and, if it cannot get itself buried again under the surface, soon dies.

NUM

NUMBER V.

PARISH OF FORTEVIOT,

(COUNTY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIR-
LING, PRESBYTERY OF PERTH.)

By a friend to Statistical Inquiries.

Situation.

THIS parish is situated on the fertile banks of the river Earn, that gives name to the rich and beautiful strath through which it runs. It is probable that a considerable portion of this plain or strath was once covered by the water of the river, or by an arm of the sea, which, through length of time, was replaced by sand, mud and earth, carried down from the neighbouring high lands, in the same manner that the carses of Stirling and Falkirk, and some others, had been originally formed. Forteviot stretches not only across this plain, but far into the Ochil-hills, and comprehends some of the distinguished summits belonging to the

the northern division of that well-known ridge of mountains. It is bounded on the east by the parishes of Aberdalgie, Forgandenny, and part of Arngask; on the west, by Dunning, Findo-Gask, and a part of Forgandenny that runs westward between the Ochil part of this parish and the rest of it; on the north, by Tibbermor; and on the south, by Orwell. It is computed to be eight miles in length, by two in breadth. Hilltown and Mailler, another district of the parish, is also entirely cut off from the rest by two intervening parishes, at the distance of about three or four miles. The improper subdivision of parishes, with relation to one another, with respect to their several churches, and the conveniency of their inhabitants, is so general all over Britain, that it almost ceases to be viewed as an absurdity. Our laudable veneration, however, for the indisputable wisdom, and mature judgment of our ancestors, in marking, with great precision, the limits of these notable districts, and the irremediable confusion that would necessarily follow, were any alteration made on them, should effectually restrain us from ever attempting to disturb their established order.

Name.—The name of this place is generally written Forteviot. In Fordun and others, it is Fortheviot, Forthevioth, and Forteviach. This name is asserted by some authors to be a contraction of *Fortbuir-tabiaicht*, Gaelic, from *Foirthir*, farther or remote; and *tabachta*, state or condition. This compound name may therefore mean the remote or distant situation or state, which, with respect to Stirling, Perth, or Abernethy, ancient seats of government and power, is very much applicable to the place. This etymology, however, is very doubtful.

Heritors.

Heritors.—The Earl of Kinnoul, Lord Ruthven, and Colonel Belches of Invermay, are the principal proprietors in the parish.

Rivers.—The river Earn or Ern flows across the breadth of the parish, from west to east. It frequently overflows its banks, and is thereby the occasion of great damage to the low grounds through which it runs.—The May is a rivulet that takes its origin among the Ochil-hills, at the distance of about eight miles from the Earn, into which, after a greatly variegated course, it is lost, a little to the eastward of a stone bridge of 6 arches, built about 30 years ago, very near the place where the ferry-boat or coble formerly was. It sometimes descends from the hills with great rapidity, making considerable devastations on the banks and the adjacent grounds. On these occasions, the passage to the church, from some parts of the country, is rendered very circuitous and difficult.—*Invermay*, the residence of Colonel Belches of Invermay, is situated a short way from the church, on the banks of the May, in one of the most romantic and pleasant spots in this part of Perthshire. This is the place that gave rise to the well-known ballad of the *Birks of Invermay*. The mansion-house, which is not of an old date, is neat and commodious, and makes a striking contrast with an old tower, which is permitted to remain, in its vicinity. The banks are covered with wood, both natural and planted; among which the birk (birch) holds a conspicuous place, and perpetuates the scenery alluded to in the ballad already mentioned.—The water and banks of the May exhibit some natural curiosities, that deservedly attract the attention of strangers. The *Humble Bumble*, in particular, is extremely remarkable. This name is given to a narrow course which the water has cut for itself a considerable way through

through a rock, the sides of which meet almost together, especially near the top. This passage is both deep and dark. A rumbling noise, which the water makes in its passage through it, is believed to have given rise to the name by which this remarkable place is known.—A little above the Humble Bumble is the *Linn of Muckarsay*, about thirty feet perpendicular, which, when the water is high, and comes foaming from the hills, exhibits a beautiful cascade.—The banks of the May, and several other places in the parish, abound with plants not frequently to be met with, as the *lithospermum officinale*, *astragalus uralensis*, &c.

Proper Names.—Many of the names of places in this parish are Gaelic, as Craigmor, Cairnmor, and Invermay, &c. As these are the names of hills and rivers, they may be considered as very ancient; not being so liable to change as the names of houses and farms. It is probable, therefore, that they were given by the original inhabitants of the place, and consequently must have been prior to the time when it was possessed by the Picts; for it is believed, that the original language of the Picts and of the Scots was not the same. It is worthy of observation also, that most of these names, as *Rossie*, *Inver* or *Inner*, &c. are such as abound in the western Highlands of Scotland, in places where the Gaelic has been the vernacular language of the inhabitants time immemorial. This, among many others that might be mentioned, affords a proof that the Gaelic or Erse language, as at present spoken in the western Highlands, was in reality the language that was anciently spoken all over Scotland, and not a modern dialect of the Irish, brought from Ireland, and peculiar to the western districts of

of Scotland, as some late writers in defence of Gothicism groundlessly fancy it to be.

Population.—The number of inhabitants is 970. When this account was taken, about two years ago, the number of males in the parish was less than that of females only by three. In 1755, according to Dr Webster's account, the population was 1164, which makes a deficiency of 194. The accumulation of small into large farms is generally ascribed as the chief cause of this depopulation.

Church.—The ancient church of Forteviot is said to have been founded by Hungus king of the Picts, who lived near the downfall of the Pictish kingdom, and to whom this district belonged. It was at an early period attached to the Abbey of Cambuskenneth, and was afterwards given to the College of St Andrews; which college, and the family of Belches of Invermay, are patrons. The ancient parish of Muckarley was, many years ago, annexed to Forteviot. There is a place of worship at Muckarley, and the ruins of another at Kirktown of Mailler, neither of which has for a long time been frequented; but the burying-grounds adjoining to them are occupied by the neighbourhood for burying their dead.—The Reverend Harry Inglis is the present incumbent, and enjoys a stipend above L. 100 Sterling, besides manse and glebe. He has long served in the pastoral charge of this parish with great respectability and success. Of late, however, owing to old age and infirmity, he has been under the necessity of keeping an assistant, of which he has had several in succession. The custom that prevails in Scotland, of supplying a parochial charge by means of an assistant, when the minister becomes unfit for the whole or a part of the duty, is highly commendable. These assist-

ants are mostly young men, who being licensed to preach, are candidates for the holy ministry. They are paid, when assistants, commonly by the minister; but sometimes by the minister and parishioners, and in some instances by the parishioners only. Their business, as assistants, is to preach, catechise, and visit the people, at the desire, and under the sole direction of the minister. Some few of them, owing to the peculiar circumstances of the parish, are ordained, or admitted to full orders, and in consequence may administer the sacraments. They generally continue in office during the pleasure of the minister: but some of them, who have procured an interest in the patron's favour, are, by the consent of the minister, ordained assistants and successors.

School.—The parochial school, under the wise direction, and regular attendance, of Mr Gow, the present schoolmaster, is well frequented. The salary is L. 100 Scotch; the paying of a great part of which is laid on the tenants, and requires about sixty receipts to be given annually by the schoolmaster, before even that small sum can be collected. The school-wages are very moderate, being 1 s. *per* quarter for English; 1 s. 3 d. for writing; 1 s. 6 d. for arithmetic; and 2 s. for Latin. The proportion between the wages and the hours of attendance seems in no respect to be reasonable. The school begins, during summer, at nine in the morning, dismisses at twelve at noon; meets again at two in the afternoon, and dismisses at five in the afternoon. It commences, during winter, at ten in the morning, and continues, without intermission, till three in the afternoon. When the time of attendance is considered, and especially the incessant labour that must be undergone in teaching a parochial school, it will appear, that the established schoolmasters in this district, and generally all over Scotland, are but poorly

poorly rewarded. An application, a few years ago, was made to the landed interest, by the parochial schoolmasters of the kingdom, for a small addition to their salaries; but it was opposed with the utmost vigour, and, in consequence, did not succeed. It must, however, be observed, that many of the landed proprietors in Scotland, impressed with a sense of the propriety of giving a little more encouragement to a class of men the most useful in society, are spontaneously offering their assistance in augmenting the salaries of parish schools.

Poor.—The poor upon the session-roll are usually about six or eight; and are supported by the collections at church, which being only about 3 s. 6 d. a-week, must afford them but a very scanty supply.

Agriculture.—As there is little or no manufacture in the parish, the people are mostly employed in husbandry, the mode of which has altered with the late introduction of agricultural improvements into Perthshire. Not much of the parish is inclosed; a circumstance which indicates, that the farmers of this place have a great deal of pleasure yet awaiting them, in carrying improvements to a much greater degree of perfection than they have hitherto reached.

Antiquities.—This parish affords not a little matter for the inquiries of the antiquary. Here, it is said, was the residence of some of the kings of the Picts in remote periods: and here King Kenneth, after the Pictish kingdom was annihilated, departed this life, as thus narrated in the MSS. of Melrofs, and Andreas Vintonius, who wrote in the time of Robert Duke of Albany.

“ Primus

" Primus in Albania fertur regnasse Kinedhus,

" Filius Alpini, prælia multa Gerens.

" Expulsis Pictis, regnaverat octo bis annis,

" Atque Fortemet *, mortum ille fuit."

See Sir James Dalrymple's Collect. p. 90.

Halyhill, near the present church, but a great part of the site of which is said to have been carried off by the water of Mey, was the summer residence of Malcolm Canmore, and others of the Scottish kings, who granted many charters from this place. At certain distances from the palace were erected large stones, by way of pillars: as the *Standing-stane of Bankhead and Cross of Dronochy*. Several urns and stone-coffins, with fragments of human bones, were found, some years ago, in different parts of the parish. The mill of Forteviot, and the Coblehaugh, mentioned by Andrew Wyntoun, yet remain. At Coblehaugh was the boat for ferrying over the Earn. The miller's daughter was mother to Malcolm Canmore.

An account of some of these, and other antiquities in the parish, was communicated to the public, in one of the magazines printed at Edinburgh, about 24 or 25 years ago. That account was written by Mr Taylor, then schoolmaster at Forteviot, now at Kinross †.

* In Fordun's Scot. Chro. Lib. IV. cap. 3. This word is written Fortheviot.

† The Halyhill, as it is commonly called, a small eminence at the west end of Forteviot, was once the site of a royal residence, first, It would appear, of the Pictish, and afterwards of some of the Scottish, kings. Here Kenneth II. having reigned in peace sixteen years, after revenging the death of his father Alpin, whom the Picts beheaded, by exterminating that people, and entirely subjugating their territory, died of a fistula. This place seems to have been a favourite residence of King Malcolm Canmore, and

and many charters are said to bear date from it. Near to this place, Edward Baliol encamped his army, 31st July 1332, on the Miller's Acre, immediately before the bloody battle of Duplin. There is a stone cross, quite entire, a good way up the rising ground (Bankhead) on the opposite bank of the Earn, almost straight north from the ford by which Baliol's army crossed the river, and another on the south of Forteviot, upon a rising ground, called Dronachy, lying broken over at the pedestal, on which are many emblematical figures. About half-a-mile north from the first of these, a large tumulus or cairn was opened about thirty years ago, by the people repairing a road in the neighbourhood, and in it were found some coffins formed of rough flat stones, containing many fragments of bones, and some trinkets in various figures, of a vitrified substance and blackish colour; and, a few years ago, some urns were dug up at the west boundary of the parish, when the road was repairing between Invermey and Dunning.

The ruinous buildings on the Halyhill were visited as an object of curiosity, so late as the reign of Charles I.; but nothing now remains of these buildings, and only a part of the eminence whereon they stood, as the water of Mey, by undermining below, is continually washing away less or more of the rubbish. The King's Haugh, a little east from the place, still retains the name. Tradition informs us, that some houses in the neighbourhood have been built, or rebuilt, of the stones of the palace at Halyhill; and some of these are easily distinguished by the antiquated figures cut thereon.

The Pleasure-green, too, the scene of ancient exercises and amusements, is still used by the school-boys in their diversions. The school and master's house stand on the west end thereof.

The Halyhill is at present only about half as big as it was 30 years ago.

NUMBER VI.

PARISH OF ORWEL.

(COUNTY OF KINROSS, SYNOD OF FIFE, AND PRESBY-
TERY OF DUNFERMLINE.)

Name, Situation, and Extent.

THIS parish, from the earliest public records, was called, what it is to this day, *Orwel*. From whence it derived this name is entirely unknown. The various accounts from tradition, from whence it derived this name, are so fabulous, as to exceed the belief of even the most credulous antiquarian.

This parish is better known in the neighbouring parishes, by the name of the village in which the kirk and manse are situated, viz. Millnathort, vulgarly called *Mills-a-forth*; from *mulean*, a mill, and *atbart*, across, or over; both Gaelic words, and which are perfectly expressive of the real situation of the town; a mill being placed upon a rivulet, which nearly equally divides the village.

This parish, as mentioned above, is situated in the shire of Kinross, presbytery of Dunfermline, and synod of Fife.

It

It is bounded by the parishes of Arngask and Forteviot on the north; by Kinross on the south; by Portmoack and Strathmeiglo on the east; and by that of Fossaway on the west; being between 5 and 6 miles in length from east to west, and about 5 miles in breadth from north to south.

It is 16 miles from the North Ferry, and 14 from Perth. The great road to Perth leads through the village of Millnathort, in the centre of the parish.

Surface and Soil.—This parish lies almost perfectly flat: north from the village it rises gradually to the top of the high grounds called *Kinross-brae*, which braes are the terminations of the Ochil-hills; the height of which, here, will not be above 760 feet above the level of the sea. There is not much of this parish either in moor or moss; the far greater part of it consists in excellent pasture for cattle, or in cultivation.

The soils are various. The farms which lie to the south of the parish, bordering upon the *Queegh* †, are a mixture of clay and sand, and yield about 5 bolls an acre. The farms situated on the north of the village are of a light sandy soil, and yield about 6 bolls an acre. The lands about the village are reckoned as good as any in the shire, and afford excellent crops, and generally have an early harvest.

Inclosures about the village rent at 40 s. *per* acre, and some parks even at 50 s. *per* acre. Upon an average, the one-half of the lands of this parish are neatly divided and inclosed with good stone-dikes and fences. For the produce and quantity of the crops see the table.

Minerals.—There is no coal in this parish hitherto discovered; but in the neighbouring parishes there are plenty of peats, which are used by the poorer sort of people. There

† Also spelt Queich.

There are 4 free-stone quarries in this parish ; 2 of which are upon these farms called Hattonburn farms, belonging to Mr Stein of Hattonburn : the other 2 are in the eastern part of the parish. The stones of these quarries are of a grey and whitish colour, something resembling the Graigleith, near Edinburgh, or those of the Portland stones, in England. They are exceedingly good for building, either in rouble or in ashler. The houses built in Millnathort, of these quarries, have an elegant, light, and cheerful appearance.

Roads and Plantations.—There are 2 excellent roads that run through this parish : the one, leading from Perth to the North Ferry, is constantly kept in the best repair ; the other, leading from Stirling to Kinross, strikes off from the main turnpike at the bridge of Queegh, is naturally laid with channel, and is always good without much repair. There is little planting in this parish, as yet, come to any maturity ; the only planting worth while of mentioning, is that in the eastern part of the parish, which surrounds the *Castle of Burleigh*, the trees of which are very large, and so old, as that many of them are grown boss or hollow. This planting, with the castle, belongs to Mr Graham of Kinross.

Rivulets, Bridges, and Mills.—Only 2 rivulets glide thro' this parish ; the largest of which is called the *Queegh*, coming from the west, and terminating in Loch Leven. This rivulet, upon an average, may be about 20 feet over, and divides this parish from Kinross on the south, over which there is a good stone-bridge, on the great turnpike-road from the Ferry to Perth. The other rivulet runs through the village of Millnathort, and serves the inhabitants with water ; it is over this rivulet that the village of Millnathort, with the mills, are situated, which gave rise to the name of the

the village. There are also several mills situated upon this rivulet, besides the mill in the village; 2 wauk-mills, 1 flour-mill, 1 thrashing-mill, and 3 meal-mills, besides the distillery. Over this rivulet, also, there is a stone-bridge, in the middle of the village.

Population.—The population of this parish has certainly increased of late. The number of children born, *communibus annis*, about 120; but, owing to the negligence of the parents, in not registering their childrens births, an accurate list cannot be obtained. They seem to have paid more attention to this the end of last century than they do at present.—The population in 1755, was 1891 souls.

The following tables will show, at one view, the population of this parish for some years past, and which are meant as a *medium* for the present and former years, viz.

Statistical Table of the Parish of Orwel.

	1791	1792	1793	1794
Families,	429	434	442	453
Married,	504	510	524	515
Unmarried,	1188	1198	1218	1306
Under 10 years,	377	381	388	396
Above 50,	306	307	311	310
Widowers,	41	41	41	39
Widows,	90	92	93	103
Males,	792	797	811	741
Females,	904	913	933	964
Total number of souls	1696	1710	1744	1705
Average, majority of females,			-	122
1792. Marriages this year, in <i>medium</i> ,			-	16

1792.	Deaths this year, in <i>medium</i> ,	-	57
	<i>Viz.</i> under 10 years,	23	} 57
	Between 10 and 20 years,	14	
	———— 50 and upwards,	20	

Professions.

	1791	1792	1793	1794	1795
Establishment,	496	504	510	416	401
Antiburghers,	520	528	537	584	590
Burghers,	642	642	661	710	712
Relief,	- 33	33	33	36	40
Servants,	254	255	267	258	259

Occupations, &c.

Feuers,	-	18	Proprietors,	-	1
Masons,	-	10	Ministers,	-	4
Wrights,	-	20	Schoolmasters	-	1
Shoemakers,	-	27	Private teachers,	-	2
Tailors,	-	13	Flour-mills,	-	1
Weavers in town, 83	} 129		Meal-mills,	-	1
Ditto in country, 46			Wauk-mills,	-	2
Butchers,	-	1	Thrashing-mills,	-	1
Gardeners,	-	1	Alehouses,	-	10
Curriers,	-	1	Brewers,	-	2

Stock, viz.

Sheep,	-	2280	Black-cattle,	-	2040
Horses,	-	425	Eng. and Scots ploughs,	-	85

Lands

Lands and Rents.

The whole extent, in Scots acres, in this parish, 16,384			
Cefs valuation,	-	L. 6786	6 2 Scots.
Present valuation,	-	4544	10 0 Sterling.
Number of ploughs of land in the parish 83, each of which, at an average, rents at L. 53, 9 s. Sterling.			
Ploughed yearly,	-	-	3210 acres.
In pasture and croft,	-	-	13124
In gardens,	-	-	50
Total,			16384

Sown annually.

Oats,	-	-	2550 bolls.
Barley,	-	-	510
Pease,	-	-	160
Wheat,	-	-	15
Potatoes,	-	-	85
Flax-feed,	-	-	27 $\frac{3}{4}$
Turnip,	-	-	20 acres.

Annual Produce.

Oats,	-	-	10200 bolls.
Barley,	-	-	3080
Potatoes,	-	-	1360
Stones of lint,	-	-	888
Acres of sown grafs,	-	-	255

Total Valuation of Annual Produce.

Oats and barley, at 13 s. per boll,	L. 9520	0 0
Potatoes, at 4 s. per boll,	-	252 0 0
Carried forward,		L. 9772 0 0

	Brought forward, L.	9772	0	0
- Lint, at 10 s. 6d. <i>per</i> stone,	-	470	0	0
Grafs, at L. 4 <i>per</i> acre,	-	1040	0	0
Wheat,	-	100	0	0
Turnips,	-	80	0	0
Fruits, &c.	-	100	0	0
	Total,	11562	0	0

Present kirk built,	-	1729
———manse built,	-	1788
———school-house built,	-	1769
Average number of scholars <i>per annum</i> , between 70 and 80.		

When a proper register was kept of the births in this parish, it was known that it rather decreased in population, as will appear from the following, which is copied from the session-clerk's records, viz.

In the years 1692 and 1693 there were baptized,	106
———— 1779 and 1780 —————	96
	Decrease 10

But as many of the inhabitants never make any registrations, the account of this small decrease, in the space of a full century, may be as much, if not more, owing to this cause as to any other.

Antiquities.—In the eastern part of this parish, near the foot of Lomond-hills, which separate this parish from those of Portmoack and Strathmeiglo, are the ruins of the Castle of Burleigh, formerly the residence of the late Lord Burleigh. This ancient castle was formerly a place of great strength, when family feuds so much prevailed. It is a square,

square, surrounded by a wall of 10 feet in height, a deep ditch, and a redoubt. It is surrounded, as already mentioned, with a great number of trees, many of which are very large, and bolls and hollow with age.

One of them, in particular, (an ash), about the distance of 20 yards from the castle, has been bolls these 50 years past. Of this tree, tradition gives many accounts, which we cannot insert, as some of them seem doubtful *. This old castle, with the lands annexed, was purchased 30 years ago by General Irvin, and sold by him to Mr Graham of Kinross, the present proprietor.

This castle is entirely a ruin; some part of its wall is fallen to decay, and the ditch that surrounded it is in many places filled up.

Ecclesiastical State.—The present kirk of Orwel, or, as it is commonly called, the *Old Kirk*, in contradistinction to the Seceders meeting-houses, which are called the *New Kirks*, was built in the year 1729. It stands upon an eminence above the village of Millnathort, about 200 yards from the manse; it has, outwardly, a pretty decent appearance for a country kirk, and is tolerably well finished inwardly. The manse also is situated on an eminence above the village; it is entirely new, being built in 1788, upon the

* This tree is noted for sheltering Lord Burleigh when he concealed himself from justice. The occasion of it was, that the schoolmaster of Aberdour having married a girl whom Lord Burleigh had a regard for, and taken her home from his Lordship's house in his absence, at his return, finding the girl gone off with the schoolmaster, he instantly rode down with full speed to the schoolmaster's house, and shot him thro' the head in his own door. Having thus rendered himself liable to the scourge of the law, his Lordship was pleased to take up his residence, for some considerable time, in the heart of this old ash, which is still green to this day, and is known by the name of *Burleigh's Hole*.

the site of the old manse; its front is to the south, and the garden before it declines like a hot-bed; the manse is built in a temporary manner; the walls being insufficient to hold out rain, consequently, the house is often filled with water, and the ceiling destroyed.

The school-house was built in 1769: it consists of only 2 apartments; the one is used as the school-house, the other as the schoolmaster's room.

The living of this parish, at present, glebe, manse, &c. included, will be about L. 120 Sterling. The glebe consists of 8 Scotch acres, of a good rich soil, and is contiguous with the manse.—The schoolmaster here, as in many parishes of Scotland, officiates as session-clerk; his salary is L. 200 Scotch, which, with school-fees and other emoluments, make his income considerable; as in winter there are upwards of 100 scholars, and in summer there will be 60.

There are few poor upon the roll, as the other 3 places of worship support their own poor.

The school-fees are, English 1 s. 6 d.; writing, 2 s.; arithmetic, 2 s. 6 d.; and Latin, 3 s. 6 d. *per* quarter. Mr Graham of Kinross is the patron.

In the village of Millnathort there are no fewer than 4 places of worship, viz. the Establishment, the Antiburghers, Burghers, and Reformers, commonly called Cameronians.

The primary cause of there being Seceders in this parish, was a Mr Mair, a minister of the Establishment, who, changing his opinions, preached up the erroneous doctrine of universal redemption, and was in consequence of this dismissed from his charge; notwithstanding of this he still continued in the village, preaching this doctrine, till the day of his death, to his adherents, who were very numerous, and who built that large chapel presently occupied by the Burghers.

The

The exact number of persons, of each opinion in this parish, has been already shown by the table.

These other meeting-houses, however, besides accommodating the inhabitants of this parish, also accommodate many hearers who come from the neighbouring parishes. Many of these hearers come regularly every Lord's day, 8, 10, and even 14 miles, to hear their own minister. These people, male and female, travel, when the roads are bad, bare-foot and bare-legged, with their shoes and stockings in their hands: so much regard have they for the word, to hear it preached in its purity and simplicity.

Character and Manner of Living.—They, in general, are active and industrious: they are naturally generous and social, and very fond of news. Drunkenness in this parish is entirely unknown. They are very orderly and decent people; and crimes of any consequence are feldomer committed here than in many parishes in Scotland of equal population.

Religious Character.—The religious character of the inhabitants of this parish is various, according to their sect. Those of the Establishment neither run into the extreme of superstition on the one hand, nor of fanaticism on the other, but are of the calm, moderate, and mild cast, making no great noise or bustle about it, though they are very regular in attending to its institutions.

The Seceders, in general, are very quiet and peaceable, and live in good understanding with those of a different persuasion. Upon the whole, the inhabitants attend regularly upon divine ordinances, both of a common, or of a more extraordinary nature; and there are few families who do not keep up the worship of God in their houses,
evening

evening and morning; a divine institution, too much neglected, if not wholly laid aside, in many parishes in this Island. Upon a review of the religious character of the inhabitants of this parish, we cannot but conclude with these words, as applicable to them, "They are a people dwelling alone *."

Climate, Diseases, and Longevity.—The inhabitants of this parish justly boast of the salubrity of the air in which they breathe. Situated upon a dry soil, and blessed with many pure springs of water; washed by the river Queegh on the south, and by a smaller one just running through the village; fenced from the blasts of the stormy north by Kinrossbrae; and from the cold east winds by Lomond Hills; they often enjoy a happy exemption from those diseases which lurk in marshy districts, and which frequently visit and affect parishes at no great distance. The inhabitants of this parish are not only entirely free of all diseases, but are strong, robust, and of a healthy constitution. Many of them live to a very great age. One woman †, in particular, may be mentioned, who, though upwards of 94 years, is in good health, and supports herself by spinning. She has children, grandchildren, and great-grand-children, in the same village. There have been many buried of late in this church-yard, whose ages have been said to exceed that of this woman; but to all the accounts of longevity published, or even related, we are by no means to give credit, as they are generally exaggerated.

Fuel and Manner of Living.—It has formerly been observed, that there is no coal in this parish: the inhabitants get this article from *Kelty*, about 6 miles south of this parish;

* Numbers xxiii. 9.

† Christian Millar.

rish; they pay 1 s. 2 d. for a single cart at the hill, and 3 s. for cartage, making the cart of coals amount to 4 s. 2 d.: it will weigh about 8 cwt.

There are also peats to be had in the neighbourhood; but these are only burnt by the poorer sort of people.

Their manner of living is perfectly plain and simple, which must greatly contribute to their health. The poorer sort have oat-meal pottage for their breakfast and supper, and broth made of barley and pease for dinner, and this often without flesh; which, with bread baked of pease-meal, and rolled thin, called *pease-bannocks*, compose the whole of their dinner.

The better sort, however, live in a very different manner; most of the farmers and master tradesmen keep as good a table as any gentleman of L. 500 a-year; and their common drink after meals is whisky-punch, which article they have in this parish rather better than what is to be found in many places of Scotland. It is distilled here by Mr Stein of Hattonburn. The village of Millnathort consumes a great deal of this article, which may easily be accounted for from the number of public-houses in the village. The consumption is not so much by the inhabitants themselves, as by the great concourse of passengers travelling this road to Perth, and all the north of Scotland.

NUMBER VII.

PARISH OF SORN.

(COUNTY OF AYR, SYNOD OF GLASGOW AND AYR,
PRESBYTERY OF AYR).

By the Rev. GEORGE GORDON.

Situation and Name.

THIS parish, which lies in the shire, synod, and presbytery of Ayr, and district of Kyle, is bounded on the east, by the parish of Muirkirk; on the south, by that of Auchinleck; on the west, by that of Mauchline; and, on the north, by those of Galston and Strathaven. The church, which is nearly in the centre of the parish, is about 3 miles distant from Mauchline, the nearest post-town, 60 miles west from Edinburgh, 30 south-west from Glasgow, and 15 east from Ayr.

The

The proper and intended name * of the parish is Dal-gain; but the Castle of Sorn, an ancient seat of the family of Loudon, happening to stand contiguous to the church, has insensibly communicated its own name to the whole parish; insomuch, that the former name is now but little known or regarded. Both these names are originally Gaelic †. The former signifies Sandfield, being compounded of *dail*, a field, and *gain*, sand; a name exactly descriptive of the ground about the gentleman's house from whose estate the glebe and church-yard were detached; and a name, too, which that estate, now the property of Mr Stevenson, still bears. To ascertain the precise meaning of the word Sorn, is, it seems, a matter of greater difficulty. By those who are skilled in the Gaelic language, I am informed, that, among other meanings, Sorn signifies a rising-ground of a frowning or unpleasant aspect. According to this etymology, the name may have taken its rise either from the rock on which the castle is founded, and which, at a considerable height, overhangs the river of Ayr; or rather, perhaps, from the general aspect of the rising-grounds in the neighbourhood, which, at no very remote period, must have been extremely bleak and dreary.

Extent, Form, and General Appearance.—Cutting off a triangular point of land, which runs beyond the general line of march,

* By a strange typographical error in the Statistical Account of Muirkirk, this parish is called *Lorn*, which is well known to be a district of Argyleshire, far remote from this part of the country.

† As indeed are most of the names of places in this parish. Some of these I shall here mention, with the explanation, which I have received from a friend in the Highlands. *Glen-shanroch*, clover vale; *Dal-charnach*, the field of cairns; *Dal-darch*, oak field; *Dal-diling*, a field liable to be overflowed; *Car-leith*, a winding torrent; *Auchin-cloich*, stone-field; *Barboich*, comely grove; *Blair-bip*, the field of archers; *Auchmonnach*, hill-field.

march, at the south-west extremity, and which may consist of about 300 acres, the form of this parish is nearly square, whose side is $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The river of Ayr, running from east to west, divides this square into two parts; the one on the north side being somewhat larger than that on the south. This river, which rises in the adjoining parish of Muirkirk, being, a little before its entrance into this parish, increased by the Greenock and Garpel rivulets, and, in its progress thro' it, still further augmented by a number of smaller streams, from both sides, forms, by the time it arrives at the western boundary, a considerable body of water; which, during its whole course, runs with great rapidity on a bed of round stones and gravel. It frequently attempts to shift its bed, and to make encroachments on the adjacent holms. A gentleman, who has paid much attention to rivers, characterises it as *the greatest tyrant of the kind* he has ever known. Its banks are almost every where steep and bold, and clothed with natural wood on one side or other, and very frequently on both. The scenery on its banks, therefore, especially about Sorn Castle and the manse, is, in an uncommon degree, picturesque and pleasing.

The land, observing the same course as the river, is highest on the east-side, and descends gradually towards the west; diversified, however, by various inequalities on its surface. The only considerable hill is Blackside-end, situated in the north-east corner of the parish; the height of which above the level of the sea is from 1500 to 1600 feet: It is the beginning of a ridge, which, with occasional interruptions, sweeps a great way towards the east and south. It commands a prospect of almost the whole extensive county of Ayr; the high lands of Galloway on the south; the Irish Channel, the rock of Ailsa, the isles of Arran and Bute, on the

the west ; and part of the shires of Renfrew, Lanark, and Argyle, on the north.

Natural Productions.—The moors and fields are pretty well stocked with the usual kinds of game ; but I have never heard of any singular or uncommon plant or animal in this parish ; neither are there any lakes in it. It abounds, however, in peat, coal, lime-stone, iron-stone, and red free-stone, all of a good quality. Hard by Sorn Castle there is likewise a beautiful kind of stone, of a blue-grey colour, and of a close texture, which takes a polish little inferior to that of marble, and is therefore admirably fitted for the purposes of hearth-stones, pavements, steps of stairs, &c. In a deep glen, too, in the upper part of the parish, there are symptoms of spar and lead-ore. In the river of Ayr there was abundance of fresh-water trout, and some salmon ; but it is here generally believed, that they have, of late, been much diminished in their numbers, by the iron and tar works of Muirkirk, and by the coal and lime works both in that parish and the parish of Sorn. Most of the springs are, more or less, impregnated with iron ; some of them with lime, and some with sulphur ; but, owing to the obscurity of their situation, in this remote corner of the country, none of them have hitherto attracted much attention.

Soil and Climate.—As nearly as I can compute, without actual measurement, this parish contains about 23,660 English acres ; of which, about 3000 acres consist of moss ; 7000 of hills, moors, and other pasture-lands ; about 200 are covered with wood, partly natural, and partly planted in belts and clumps ; and the remaining 13,460 are arable, though not all at present in a state of actual cultivation. The moss is distributed through several parts of the parish, and is, for
the

the most part, of the black kind. In some places, however, it is reddish, particularly in Aird's moss; the west or lower end of which begins in the south side of this parish, and runs up through it, and the parish of Auchinleck, to the distance of 8 or 9 miles. The moors and mosses produce little but heath, bent, sprits, and rushes. In several places, however, the soil, which yields these coarse productions, is only about a foot in thickness, and below this covering there is a rich bed of clay. Such lands are, therefore, evidently capable of much improvement. Excepting the holms on the banks of the river, and on those of the larger brooks, which are of a light and gravelly nature, the prevailing soil in the arable districts is that of a reddish clay, upon a bottom of blackish till. This soil, under proper management, and in favourable seasons, yields good crops of oats; but, as it retains too much moisture, it is apt, when in pasture, to be soon overrun with moss and rushes. I have been informed by a gentleman, who had himself made the experiment, that the best method of destroying rushes, or at least of keeping them in so feeble a state that they can do little harm, is to cut them early in the season, about the time when they begin to flower, and afterwards, if necessary, in the autumn; always taking care not to allow them to run to seed. By this operation, repeated during two successive seasons, he has completely cleared his pasture-lands of a very exhausting and imperious weed.

The climate is much the same here as in the other parishes of this county: Strong gales of wind, blowing directly from the Western Ocean, and accompanied with frequent and heavy showers of rain, constitute the prevailing weather. Complete rainy days, however, are, I think, less common here than on the east coast; neither does snow fall in such quantities,

quantities, or lie so long; and we have seldom reason to complain of fog.

Diseases.—Notwithstanding the prevalence of rain and moisture, the climate is found, by experience, to be remarkably healthy. The ague is a disease altogether unknown here, and even the rheumatism prevails much less than might be expected from the wetness of the soil and climate. The exemption from this last disease, in so great a degree, is undoubtedly to be ascribed, in part, to the general use of woollen-clothes, and to the abundance of fuel; an article with which even the poorest families are pretty well supplied. The small-pox, indeed, commits the same ravages here as in other places where inoculation is not generally practised. The notions of absolute predestination, which are still deeply rooted in the minds of the country-people, lead the generality of them to look upon inoculation as implying an impious distrust of Divine Providence, and a vain attempt to alter its irreversible decrees. It is truly painful to think, that, in the course of last summer, (1796), and in my immediate neighbourhood, no less than six children, from one to twelve years of age, have been cut off by this destructive disease, all of whom might probably have been preserved by means of inoculation. Some of these children, too, were beautiful and promising in an uncommon degree. Three families, however, wiser than their neighbours, inoculated their children in time, and the issue was such as might well have encouraged others to follow their example. The cases were all remarkably mild and favourable. It is to be hoped, that a few more examples of this kind, contrasted with the terrible, and often fatal, effects of the disease in the natural way, will at length open the eyes of the people at large, and

and completely remove their prejudices; especially as the practice of inoculation has, within these few years, become general in the village of Catrine. In this parish, one man has, from his infancy, been dumb, deaf, and blind; two men are blind from age, and two women in consequence of the small-pox.

Longevity.—A considerable number of both sexes arrive at 80 years of age, and some even exceed 90. Within a very small distance of the church, there are just now living a shoemaker in the 90th year of his age, and who still occupies the house in which he was born; the church-officer, who is in his 85th year; a gardener in his 95th, and his wife, nearly of the same age*; also the possessor of a small farm, who is now in his 97th year. The last of these is the most vigorous of them all, and walks 2 or 3 miles every day. It is not a little remarkable, that all these aged persons, except the first, were servants to the late Countess-dowager of Loudon, who herself lived, at Sorn Castle, till within 3 or 4 months of her 100th year.

State of Property.—The valued rent of this parish is L. 5416 Scotch; and the real rent, including that of the lands occupied by the proprietors, may amount to about L. 4000 Sterling. This property is divided among no less than 27 heritors. Of these, Mr Tennent of Sorn, the most considerable proprietor, resides occasionally; Mr Gray of Gilmillscroft, Mr Campbell of Auchmonnach, and 10 small proprietors, reside constantly; the rest do not reside at all. The non-residing heritors, arranged in the order of their respective valuations, are the following, viz.

Mr

* They have been married 68 years.

Mr Stevenfon of Dalgain,
 Mr Boswell of Auchinleck,
 Mr Alexander of Ballochmyle,
 Mr Logan of Logan,
 Mr Campbell of Fairfield,
 The Earl of Dumfries,
 Mr Dugald Stewart, Professor of Moral Philosophy in the
 University of Edinburgh,
 The Marchioness of Titchfield,
 Mr Macadam of Craigingillan,
 Mr Campbell of Netherplace,
 Mr Innes of Stow,
 Colonel Mackenzie of North-hill,
 Lord Glenlee,
 Miss Taylor of Brigs.

Population and Employment.—The number of families in this parish, exclusive of those in the village of Catrine, is 243, and of souls 1429; of these, 677 are males, 752 females. It appears from the annexed account that Catrine contains 1350 souls. Total in the parish 2779 souls. The return to Dr Webster's account, in 1755, was 1494; consequently the increase amounts to 1285 souls. Of the population of the parish, exclusive of Catrine, there are,

Under 10,	-	-	365
From 10 to 20,	-	-	282
From 20 to 50,	-	-	472
From 50 to 70	-	-	262
Above 70,	-	-	48
			—
Total			1429

The average number of births which have been registered for the last 5 years, is 65; and of marriages 18. The number of births, however, is by no means complete, as very few of the Dissenters register their childrens names. No exact register of deaths can be kept, as so many of the families have their burying-places in the neighbouring parishes.

About 100 families, including the residing heritors, are chiefly employed in the business of agriculture.

The number of men-servants is,	-	48
_____ women-servants,	-	59
_____ weavers,	-	20
_____ shoemakers,	-	8
_____ masons,	-	11
_____ wrights,	-	6
_____ tailors,	-	6
_____ smiths,	-	3
_____ gardeners,	-	2
_____ dyers,	-	1
_____ coopers,	-	1
_____ corn-mills and millers,	-	3
_____ wauk-mills and millers,	-	1

The rest are colliers, lime-quarriers, ditchers, &c.

The number of Dissenters from the Established Church is about 78, the greatest part of whom are Burgher Seceders. The very few exceptions are Antiburghers and Cameronians.

Village of Dalgain.—Though there are several groups of houses in the central parts of the parish, on both sides of the river, inhabited chiefly by colliers and other labourers, yet the only one that can properly come under the denomination of a village is Dalgain, situated a little to the eastward of

of the church, in a beautiful holm, having the river on the front, or south side, and a winding bank, covered with natural wood, on the north. About 16 years ago, the late Dr Stevenson, physician in Glasgow, the proprietor, parcelled out this holm among several different feuers, for the purpose of building a small village, at the rate of 4 d. *per* fall of annual feu-duty. Accordingly, a village soon arose, built on the north side of the road to Muirkirk, in one row, and with a good deal of uniformity. This village now consists of 24 houses and 43 families, beside 7 families who reside in houses on the banks of the river, which, from the proximity of their situation, may be reckoned a part of the village, though built long before it. These 50 families contain 191 souls; among whom are 3 shopkeepers, 3 innkeepers, 3 masons, 7 shoemakers, 5 weavers, 5 tailors, 4 seamstresses, and 7 colliers; the rest are labourers, aged widows, &c. This village is, therefore, evidently the residence of a large proportion of the tradesmen belonging to the parish. It has not, however, added much to the population, as most of the same families formerly lived in cottages, which are now in ruins. Most of these families are provided with gardens, of various dimensions, behind their houses, which they cultivate with great care, and raise in them not only the common kinds of esculent plants, but also strawberries, gooseberries, and currants, and occasionally flax and barley. Some of them, too, are very successful in the management of bees.

Price of Labour.—About 10 years ago, when the village of Catrine began to be built, the wages of masons and wrights were raised to about 20 d. *per* day; and at that rate they have continued ever since, with little variation. In the course of the last 7 years, however, the price of other kinds of labour has been considerably advanced. Seven
years

years ago, the wages of a labouring man-servant was from L. 7 to L. 8; they are now (that is, in 1796) from L. 10 to L. 12; of women-servants, the yearly wages were then from L. 3 to L. 3, 10 s.; they are now L. 4. A tailor, when maintained in the families of his employers, then earned 8 d. *per* day; he now earns 1 s. A labourer then earned 10 d. a-day in winter, and 1 s. in summer; he now earns 15 d. or 16 d. a-day in winter, and 18 d. or 20 d. in summer.

State of Agriculture.—Agriculture is here still in a very imperfect, but, at the same time, in a progressive state. Few of the tenants possess more than a ploughgate of land, but a considerable number of them possess much less. The leases are usually for 18 or 19 years, with some restrictions as to management. With respect to the rotation of crops, the general rules prescribed are, that only one-third of the farm is to be ploughed at a time; the two first crops to be oats, the third bear and grass-seeds, the fourth hay, and the next five years pasture; or, instead of this, the third crop may be pease, the fourth bear and grass-seeds, &c. From the want of proper subdivisions, however, and the absence or inattention of the proprietors, these rules are seldom strictly observed. Instead of bear and grass-seeds the third year, it is but too common a practice to take a third and even a fourth crop of oats, and then to leave the lands for pasture, without sowing any grass-seeds at all.

Within the last 10 or 12 years most of the farm-houses have been rebuilt, with considerable improvements, both in point of size and accommodation. Several of the pendicles have been thrown into the adjacent farms, and about a dozen of cot-houses have been allowed to fall into ruins, their inhabitants having repaired to the villages, (which have lately started up in this parish), where they find sufficient employment.

ployment, and good wages, both for themselves and their families.

The use of oxen, for the purposes of labour, is a thing altogether unknown, or at least never practised, in this part of the country. The wauk or fulling mill, and the three corn-mills, in this parish, are all upon the river of Ayr. The seasons of sowing and reaping are much the same here as in the neighbouring parishes.

From the general poverty of the tenants, and other causes, lime has hitherto been less used, as a manure, in this parish than in some of the neighbouring parishes, which lie at a greater distance from it. As their circumstances have, of late, been improving, however, they are now beginning to use it more, and, at the same time, to cultivate their lands in a better manner, to pay more attention to their gardens, the breed of horses and cattle, and, in short, to every kind of rural economy and improvement. With the exception of thirlage to particular mills, personal and feudal services are almost entirely abolished.

According to the leases of former years, the average rent of the arable lands was only about 5 s. *per acre*; but as these leases expire, the rent is from 10 s. to 12 s. and, in the immediate neighbourhood of the villages, from 20 s. to 30 s. or even higher.

In the course of the 3 last years, the occupier of a pendicle of 5 acres, consisting mostly of moss, has introduced a method of cultivating this kind of soil which bids fair to be productive of much general utility. He forms his moss ground into beds of 9 or 10 feet wide, exactly resembling the *lazy* beds in which potatoes are sometimes planted. Between these beds he makes a trench, throwing its contents upon the beds, in such a manner that the upper surface may lie directly upon the under. This part of the work he executes in the autumn and winter, and then spreads

spreads lime upon the beds. In spring he sows them with oats, and then applies the harrow, if the ground will admit of it; but if it will not, he, with a shovel, throws a covering of loose earth upon it from the bottom of the trenches. By means of this process, the first year yields a crop of about 4 bolls *per* acre, and the second a crop of about 6. The same kind of soil, under similar management, likewise produces excellent crops of potatoes. Other persons have already begun to follow the example of this worthy and industrious improver; and we may now, therefore, indulge the pleasing prospect, that the moss grounds, which abound so much in this parish, and which have hitherto been of very little use, may be gradually converted into good corn fields, and excellent pastures.

Stock and Produce.—The upper or moorland part of the parish, consists of several store farms, which, altogether, maintain about 5000 sheep. In the breed of these sheep there is nothing remarkable; they are of the common black-faced kind, and of a size somewhat larger than those in the southern districts of this county. In the enclosed farms, sheep are strictly prohibited, in order to preserve the young plantations and hedges.

From the jealousy and reluctance which most of the tenants discovered to give an accurate account of their stock, I am unable to ascertain the precise number either of horses or black-cattle; but, from the best information which I could procure, I have reason to conclude, that the number of the former amounts to about 240, and of the latter to about 1470. Some of the horses are still of the old diminutive breed of the country; but the greatest part of them are an improved breed, of a middle size, hardy, and well adapted to the purposes of agriculture. The farmers rear most of their own horses, and a few likewise for sale. The
number

number of ploughs is about 80, and that of carts about 160.

The black-cattle consist partly of the small ancient breed, but mostly of a mixed breed between that and the Cunningham kind. About two-thirds are milch-cows, and the rest young cattle, rearing for the same purpose. Very few are reared or fed directly for the purpose of slaughter. Several of the tenants have removed to this parish from the parish of Dunlop, or its neighbourhood; the art of making Dunlop cheese is now, therefore, generally and well understood. It is only within these 10 or 12 years, however, that this species of manufacture was much practised in this parish. The average produce of butter from each cow is $2\frac{1}{2}$ stone, and of cheese 8 stone; about two-thirds of which is of the sweet-milk, or Dunlop kind. From these data, a pretty correct estimate of the produce of the milch-cows in the parish may be easily formed. This produce is sold partly to the shopkeepers and private families in the neighbouring villages, and partly to those in Glasgow. Within these few years, some of the farmers have begun to feed a pig or two, with whey in summer, and with potatoes and a little oat-meal in winter. As this kind of stock is found to be profitable, it will probably soon become an object of more general attention.

Potatoes constitute a very large proportion of the food of the inhabitants. Almost every family raises them for its own use; and the occupiers of land have lately begun to raise them also for the purpose of feeding horses and cattle, particularly milch-cows, a practice which is found to be highly advantageous. The inhabitants of the villages, and others, who possess no land for raising potatoes, take a piece of ground from some of the nearest proprietors or farmers, at the rate of 6 d. *per* fall, beside furnishing a reasonable quantity of dung. These pieces of ground they cultivate
with

with great care and industry, sometimes with the plough, but more frequently with the spade and hoe. The average produce of an acre is about 30 bolls; and about 100 acres are every year appropriated to the culture of this most valuable root.

All who possess any portion of land, however small, raise flax sufficient for their own domestic purposes, but very little for sale. About 20 or 30 acres may be annually occupied with this kind of crop, which, in general, succeeds very well. About 250 acres are every year sown with clover and rye-grass. In some cases, a crop of wheat has lately been tried upon holm-lands immediately after a crop of potatoes, and with very good success. There is little probability, however, that this species of grain will ever be much cultivated in this parish. Oats and bear, especially the former, have hitherto been, and are still likely to continue to be, the principal objects of attention. The average produce of an acre is about 5 Ayrshire bolls, equal to as many English quarters. The prices of grain, and of other provisions, need not be particularly specified here, being much the same as in the other parishes in the neighbourhood. There is no regular fair in this parish; but for more than 50 years there has been an annual race, in the month of March, which draws a considerable concourse of people. As many of these meet for business more than for amusement, this race, in some measure, answers the purposes of a fair.

Minerals.—Whatever may be its disadvantages as to soil and climate, this parish has an ample compensation in its minerals, particularly coal and lime. On the north side of the parish, Mr Campbell of Auchmonnach has a large field of lime-stone; but, as it happens to be 3 miles distant from the nearest coal, little advantage has hitherto been derived from it. As the demand for lime, however, is yearly increasing,

creasing, he erected a draw-kiln last summer, and now proposes to carry on the work with spirit.

In the north-east district of the parish, adjacent to Black-side-hill, there is an extensive moor, part of the estate of Sorn, in which there is a seam of excellent coal, about 5 feet thick, within 4 or 5 feet of the surface, and of an unknown extent. This seam, it appears, had been partly wrought in former times, but had been so much neglected during the present century that its very existence was forgotten, till it was in a manner rediscovered last summer. In the same moor and its vicinity there are great quantities of iron-stone; specimens of marble and of black-lead have likewise been found there, and some lime-stone of an admirable quality. Were a communication opened with this moor, by means of a road of 2 or 3 miles in length, it would probably, beside improving the farms through which it must pass, become a source of great wealth to the proprietor, as well as of great accommodation to the surrounding country. In this instance, and in many others which have not yet been sufficiently explored, the bleak moors of Caledonia, and her hills covered with blue mists, will, doubtless, be found to contain some of her most valuable treasures.

Farther to the southward, but still on the north side of the river, and about a mile distant from it, there are 2 lime quarries, on the march between the Sorn and Dalgain estates, one upon each of these estates. The quarry on the Dalgain side has been wrought for many years, and both works are now carrying on together. Last summer 12 men were employed in quarrying and burning the lime-stone, and the contractor had engaged to furnish 12,000 bolls of shells; owing, however, to the wetness of the season, and the impossibility of procuring a sufficient number of hands, this quantity was not fully completed. At the same place,

and on the Sorn side, there are rich seams of excellent coal; but as a fire-engine is necessary for drawing off the water, and none has yet been erected, this coal has hitherto been, in a great measure, inaccessible. In another extensive field, on the Sorn estate, and at a very small distance from the Castle, there are 2 seams of coal, each about a foot in thickness, with a stratum of hard till, of about 2 feet thick, running between them. These seams, it is true, are rather inconsiderable; but as they are only about 8 or 9 fathoms deep, and not in the smallest degree incommoded by water, they are wrought at very little expence. Nine colliers are at present employed at this work; and the out-put *per* week is about 250 loads. As this coal lies nearer to the principal markets than any other in the parish, the proprietor, taking advantage of this circumstance, has lately raised the price from 6 d. to 8 d. *per* load. Seven years ago, the price was only 4 d. In other parts of the Sorn estate there are rich mines of excellent lime-stone; and in other parts, too, trials are at present making, for the purpose of finding new seams of coal; trials which promise to be attended with success.

In a rising ground on the south side of the river there is a lime-work of long standing, the property of Mr Farquhar Gray of Gilmillscroft; and 2 collieries, one belonging to him, and the other, contiguous to it, in the farm of Burnhead, the property of Mr Logan of Logan. The former of these gentlemen has been pleased to favour me with a short account of these works, which I shall take the liberty of communicating nearly in his own words.

“ The average quantity of lime raised at this work, during the 18 years that I have been concerned in it, is about 9000 bolls of shells, each consisting of 5 Winchester bushels; but in some particular years we have sold 14,000 bolls. This was actually the quantity sold last season; and

and so great was the demand, that, could it have been prepared, we could have sold double that quantity. We have contracted with workmen for raising 20,000 next season. As the quantity brought to market varies, the number of hands must vary in proportion. A good workman will, in a year, raise 500 tons, equal to 2000 bolls; but as little can be done in winter, you may reckon a man for every 1000 bolls, beside those employed in bearing and in carting the lime and coals to the draw-kiln. The bare, which, 18 years ago, was only 15 feet, is now 30. This circumstance has, of late, obliged us to have recourse to the expedient of mining the rock, which consists of about 7 feet thick, in so many beds; with a roof of hard till 18 inches thick. This stratum of till, with 10 feet of blaze over it, makes a good roof, and allows us to work the mine from 16 to 20 feet wide, leaving pillars about 18 feet square. When I entered upon this work, the wages of the workmen, both above and below, were from 9 d. to 14 d. *per* day: they are now from 14 d. to 2 s. This lime-stone has been worked 80 years. It is carried to the neighbouring parishes of Auchinleck, Ochiltree, Mauchline, and Stair, to the distance of 10 or 12 miles.

“When I came to this place, there were only about 6 men employed at the colliery; their wages 14 d. *per* day, and their out-put 10 loads *per* man; sold at $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. *per* load. Without including those employed in drawing to the bank, the number now employed at our colliery, and the adjacent one of Burnhead, will average about 20; their out-puts from 12 to 15 loads *per* day, *per* man, sold at 6 d. Their wages are from 2 s. to 2 s. 6 d. The main seam is about 8 feet thick, with 6 inches of fire clay in the middle. Immediately above this seam, there is a stratum of the same kind of clay, 18 inches thick; above this 18 inches of coal; then 20 inches of hard black slate; and over that near 3 feet
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of coarse coal. The former practice had been to work only the lower seam, leaving about 6 inches of it for a roof; but I have lately gone back, and brought away both that roof and the next 18 inches of coal. The field is irregular below, having many steps, throwing the coal up and down, a circumstance which increases the expence of working it. Had we a sale for iron-stone the case would be very different, as these steps are composed chiefly of that mineral. My present going pit is 30 fathom deep, driven by a horse-gin.

“By a memorandum in our charter-book it appears, that, ever since the year 1623, the standard Gilmillscroft coal-creel was 14 inches wide, 16 inches deep, and 30 inches long within; price 2 d. Sterling. It further adds, that the coals had been wrought in the *Burrow-lands* since the year 1497. We continue nearly the same measure for half a load, now sold at 3 d. of which about 7 load make 20 cwt.”

The same gentleman adds, “the whole of Sorn parish above, and a considerable space below, the church, abounds in coal, lime-stone, and iron-stone; and the White-ach *iron-ore* marches with the head of the parish, and runs into it. There is also a string of lead at Hollhouse-mill; and the spar at the Burntshiel-burn is promising. In the river of Ayr there is water sufficient for any machinery, and abundance of fall every quarter of a mile.”

Roads and Bridges.—About 25 years ago there was nothing, of any extent, in this parish that could properly deserve the name of a road. Happily, however, the case is now very different. Beside half-a-dozen of private roads, made at the expence of the respective proprietors, the parish is now intersected by 3 public roads. One of these, leading from Glasgow to Dumfries by Galston, passes through the centre of the parish, from north to south. This road is crossed

fed by 2 others, leading from Edinburgh to Ayr, by different routs. Separating a little on this fide of Muirkirk, the one paffes through the village of Old Cumnock and Auchinleck, and the fouthern part of this parifh ; the other, on the north fide of the river, paffes through the village of Dalgain, and by the church towards Mauchline, where both meet again. In the original plan of this latter road, an unfortunate error was committed ; inftead of being carried down the narrow vale, clofe by the river, as far as Sorn, which would have formed both a level and a beautiful line of road, it was carried through the higher grounds, at fome diftance, where there are two afcents of confiderable length and fteepnefs ; the one of thefe muft be encountered by thofe who go to Muirkirk, the other by thofe who return from it. So fenfible are the trustees of this error, that they were lately propofing to make this part of the road anew, and to carry it along the river ; but found that their funds were infufficient for this purpofe. They have it now in contemplation to alter the line in one or two places, in order to avoid the fteepeft pulls ; and thus to palliate an evil which cannot be entirely removed. Thefe various roads, though not every where of fuch dimenfions, nor in fuch repair, as might be wifhed, may yet, upon the whole, be confidered as good, and highly ufeful.

Befide a number of fmaller bridges, there are two acrofs the river of Ayr ; one of thefe is in the lower part of the parifh, on the fouth road from Edinburgh to Ayr ; the other, confifting of two arches, is clofe by the church, where the Glasgow road intersects the north road to Edinburgh. For this latter bridge the country is indebted to the Reverend Mr Steel, of whom I fhall more than once have occafion to make honourable mention. This bridge was built folety by means of contributions, which he collected in the parifh and neighbourhood.

Ecclefiaftical

Ecclesiastical State.—This parish, as well as that of Muirkirk, was originally a part of the parish of Mauchline, which must have then resembled a little county more than a parish. In the year 1656 the present church was built; but in the times of persecution and distraction which succeeded, no fixed pastor was settled till after the period of the Revolution. At length, however, in the year 1692, a minister was ordained, a stipend and glebe provided, a manse and offices built, and this parish completely and finally detached from that of Mauchline. The first minister who was settled here was Mr Mungo Lindsay, who discharged the duties of his station with exemplary diligence and fidelity, till the time of his death, which happened in 1738. Having no family, he bequeathed a legacy of 200 merks to the poor of this parish. He was succeeded, in due course, by Mr William Steel, whom I have already mentioned, and who, indeed, will long deserve to be remembered by his successors, and even by the parish at large. For he was not only distinguished by his abilities as a preacher, and a speaker in church-courts, but also by his public spirit, his zeal, activity, and taste, in promoting every kind of rural improvement, at a time when such improvements were but little known in this part of the country. His character and talents, and the active part which he had taken in the cause, recommended him to the choice of the General Assembly, in the year 1751, as one of their commissioners, for the purpose of applying to Government for a general augmentation of the ministers stipends throughout Scotland. This application was, however, entirely defeated by the warm opposition of the landed interest. On that occasion, Mr Steel and his fellow-commissioners are said to have committed an error, which the Church of Scotland, and even the country in general, have reason to regret. Though no augmentation, either in money or grain, could be obtained, yet,
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it is said, an augmentation of the glebes might have been easily procured; but this advantage the commissioners neglected to secure. The value of land in Scotland was then so low, that, under the chagrin which they felt from their failure in the main object, they probably thought a small augmentation of glebe was a boon not worth soliciting, or accepting. How much are circumstances now changed? and how differently would their successors act in a similar situation?

Mr Steel, unwilling, perhaps, to return to his native land, after the total overthrow of his favourite scheme, readily accepted an invitation from the Protestant Dissenters to become a preacher at Salter's Hall, London, where he soon after fell into a consumption, of which he died. He was succeeded, in 1752, by Mr James Connel, a man of a respectable character, good sense, and moderation, who filled the charge till his death, which took place in July 1789; and, in May 1790, he was succeeded by the present incumbent.

Soon after his settlement, Mr Steel, beside laying out a handsome garden of half an acre, and inclosing both it and the glebe with hedges, which still remain, for the most part, in a thriving condition, likewise built, upon a very scanty allowance from the heritors, and therefore, partly, at his own expence, a manse, which, in point of strength, accommodation, and neatness, was then hardly equalled by any thing of the kind in this county. The late Mr Connel, however, having a large family, added to the west end of it a handsome wing of one floor, with a slated roof; and, soon after the settlement of the present incumbent, the heritors added another, at the east end, corresponding with it. These additions, joined to the beauty of its situation, and the interior repairs and improvements which it has lately received, chiefly at the expence of the incumbent, have rendered it both a commodious and a pleasant habitation.

tion. It affords, indeed, a striking instance of the good economy of building manſes, &c. in a ſubſtantial manner, and upon a liberal plan, inſtead of doing it, as too often happens, according to the loweſt eſtimate. While other manſes, within the bounds of this preſbytery, have been built and rebuilt, ſome of them more than once, the manſe of Sorn has already ſtood firm and unbroken for nearly 60 years, and will probably do ſo for many years to come. It likewiſe ſtill maintains a reſpectable ſtation among its neighbours, even in a country where the heritors have, of late, diſplayed a commendable liberality in the building and repairing of churches and manſes. The offices are in a very indifferent condition, and will ſoon require to be rebuilt from the foundation. About 10 years ago, the inſide of the church was repaired, and ſeated anew, and three galleries were erected in it; ſo that it is now a very decent and commodious place of worſhip.

In a ſmall pariſh in the neighbourhood of a town, where a horſe and man-ſervant can be diſpenſed with, a glebe can be let, and is therefore a real advantage, in proportion to the rent which it brings: But in a remote and extenſive pariſh, where a horſe and man-ſervant are indiſpenſable, a *ſmall glebe* may be conſidered as a *neceſſary evil*, becauſe the produce is by no means equal to the expence unavoidably attending it. This was exactly the ſtate of the glebe of Sorn till the year 1793, when, upon a representation of the caſe, the heritors and preſbytery readily concurred in granting an augmentation of 3 acres and 3 roods. In conſequence of this augmentation, the glebe, which formerly conſiſted only of 5 acres 3 roods and $3\frac{1}{4}$ falls, including the garden and ſite of the houſes, now conſiſts of 9 acres 2 roods and $3\frac{1}{4}$ falls, which, when duly improved, will equal, or perhaps even a little exceed, the neceſſary expence.

Ever

Ever since the year 1757, when a small augmentation was obtained, the annual stipend has consisted of 31 bolls 10½ pecks of meal, 16 bolls 4¼ pecks of bear, and L. 44, 5 s. 7¼ d. Sterling, including L. 3 : 6 : 8 for communion-elements. A considerable part of this stipend is paid by the parishes of Mauchline and Tarbolton; and the whole is paid in a number of trifling articles, a circumstance which unavoidably occasions a good deal of expence and inconvenience to the incumbent. William Tennent, Esq; of Sorn is patron.

School.—Exclusive of the school in Catrine, the parish-school is the only regular and standing one; but the inhabitants of the more remote districts occasionally unite, and employ teachers for the instruction of their own children. The parish schoolmaster has no garden, but he has a school and dwelling-house, both among the most wretched that are to be found in any cultivated country. The late Mr James Boswell of Auchinleck, the last time he was in this country, declared his determination, to do every thing in his power, in order to redress this parochial grievance as soon as possible; but his death, which unfortunately happened soon after, prevented his doing any thing in the business, and it has not yet been taken up by any other person. The schoolmaster's salary is L. 8 : 6 : 8; and the school-fees are, for reading 1 s. 8 d.; reading and writing, 2 s. 6 d.; writing and arithmetic, 3 s. *per* quarter. Latin is not taught here. The average number of scholars is from 25 to 30, and the schoolmaster's whole annual income, including his emoluments as session-clerk, amounts to about L. 20. The school is by no means in a flourishing state, and there is but little probability of its ever being so, till better provision is made for the master.

Poor.—In this parish, it may truly be affirmed, that the poor are maintained chiefly by the poor. What the proprietors of land contribute for this purpose, owing to their non-residence, and other causes, is but very inconsiderable. The poor are maintained in their own houses; and, beside occasional supplies, the average number of pensioners upon the roll has, for several years past, been about 22; who, according to their several necessities, receive from 1 s. to 3 s. or 4 s. *per* month. The poor's funds are made up of the weekly collections in the church, small fines imposed on delinquents, mortcloth-money, and the interest of L. 110, the result of some small donations, and of the savings of former years. These articles, including one-half of the collections from the Chapel of Ease in Catrine, (for it has been thought proper, in the infancy of that establishment, to apply the other half to different purposes), amount altogether to about L. 26 *per annum*. These funds are under the administration of the kirk-session, subject to the occasional review of the heritors. The sum above mentioned, may appear to be a very slender provision, for the poor of so extensive and populous a parish; but, in a country where the mode of living is still, upon the whole, simple and frugal; where fuel is comparatively cheap; where there is so much health, such abundance of employment, and such high wages for all descriptions of people, the funds, inconsiderable as they are, have hitherto been found tolerably to answer the necessary demands.

During the late seasons of dearth and scarcity, no extraordinary exertions were made in favour of the poor, till winter 1795, when the greatest part of the residing heritors, in conjunction with the principal farmers and tradesmen, contributed a considerable sum, for the purpose of selling meal to the poorer families at a reduced price; and Mr Stevenson of Dalgain gave a present of L. 3, 3 s. to be disposed of

of by the kirk-session. Whatever may be the case hereafter, the village of Catrine, from the variety of employment which its manufactures afford, from the friendly societies established in it, and from the circumstance of many of the families not having yet resided so long in it as to constitute them parishioners, has hitherto been but very little burdensome to the poor's funds.

Progress of Improvement.—About the end of last century, Mr Mitchel, then proprietor of the estate of Dalgain, who had taken an active part in promoting the ecclesiastical establishment of this parish, planted an orchard* and a considerable number of forest-trees, both which plantations succeeded very well. But the first person who carried rural improvements to any considerable extent in this parish, was the late Countess-dowager of Loudon. This lady was daughter to John first Earl of Stair, and wife to Hugh Earl of Loudon. Beside her personal charms, which were very considerable, she had acquired a large portion of those mental and liberal accomplishments, which so much adorned the brilliant courts of Queen Anne and George I.; and possessed, moreover, in a high degree, that dignity of character and deportment, and that vigorous and active spirit, by which her brother, the celebrated ambassador, was so eminently distinguished. After she took up her residence at Sorn Castle, which happened in the year 1727, this spirit soon displayed itself, in operations at once useful and ornamental to the country. At that time the parish was in a very uncultivated state, and the whole aspect of the country dreary

* This orchard, by the fruit of which the tenant used to pay the rent of a considerable farm, has, from age and neglect, gradually gone to decay, and is now almost annihilated. Almost all the other orchards in the district of Kyle have undergone a similar fate.

dreary and uncomfortable. In a soil and climate where roads and shelter were peculiarly necessary, not a single road or hedge, and very few trees, were to be seen. Not discouraged by these unfavourable circumstances, she determined to create a scene more congenial to her own taste, and more like the scenes to which she had been accustomed in a better country. Accordingly, her skill and activity gradually produced an agreeable change. Beside enlarging and improving the garden and orchard, she subdivided an extensive farm which she occupied herself, enclosed it with hedges and hedge-rows, and interspersed it with belts and clumps of planting. Through the whole extent of her farm, she likewise adorned the banks of the river and of the rivulets, with walks and plantations of various kinds of trees. These operations she herself carefully superintended, and many both of the fruit and forest-trees were actually planted and pruned with her own hands, and still remain stately and pleasing monuments of her laudable industry. These, her useful labours, did not pass unrewarded. When she first settled in this country, her constitution and health appeared to be entirely broken; but, in the course of her rural occupations, these were gradually re-established, inso-much that, during the last 50 years of her life, she enjoyed an uncommon share of health and cheerfulness. After an illness of a few days, she died on the 3d of April 1777, regretted by her friends and the industrious poor, to whom she had so long been a benefactor. Had she lived till the 4th of September the same year, she would have completed the 100th year of her age.—While I walk through the scenes which her taste adorned, and under the shade of the trees which her hands planted, I feel a peculiar pleasure in paying this little tribute of respect to her memory,

His saltem accumulem donis, et fungar inani munere.

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The example of this respectable lady, was afterwards followed successively, by Mr Steel, Mr Farquhar of Gilmillcroft, Mr Dunlop of Garnkirk, and others. These improvements, however, were mostly confined to the vicinity of the river and the central parts of the parish, but, in later times, they have been extended much farther, and in this extension, all the more considerable heritors have had their share. Some parts of the moorlands, and more than three-fourths of the arable lands, are now inclosed, in some places with stone-dikes, but for the most part with ditches and hedges. It must, indeed, be acknowledged, that, owing partly to the soil and climate, but much more to the want of proper attention and skill, few of the latter are in a thriving condition, or sufficient to answer the purpose of complete fences. A growing conviction of the importance of such fences, begins at length to excite more of the attention both of the proprietors and tenants, in order to procure and preserve them.

In the present times, the most distinguished improver, beyond dispute, is Claude Alexander, Esq; of Ballochmyle. The greatest part of his property, indeed, and of course the principal scene of his improvements, lies in the parish of Mauchline; where, in making roads, building bridges and farm-houses, planting forest-trees, inclosing, laying down, and ameliorating lands, he has proceeded with a rapidity, taste, and judgment, which have rarely been exceeded by a man of equal fortune in any country. In this parish, beside highly improving his landed property, he has built the cotton-mills and village of Catrine, which have infused new life and activity into this part of the country. These various operations, he himself superintends with unwearied attention and activity. It is no more than justice to acknowledge, too, that in every kind of public work, in which he has any concern, such as the building or repairing of churches, man-
fes,

ses, and school-houses, he has uniformly discovered a laudable zeal, to have every thing done in the most substantial, handsome, and liberal manner, even in cases where the principal share of the expence was to fall upon himself.

Condition and Character of the People.—About 7 years ago, poverty prevailed very generally among all classes of people in this parish, and they were not without the faults which are usually found to accompany such a condition. Though the rents were by no means overstretched, yet very few of the tenants were able to pay them with punctuality and ease; and very few of the tradesmen and labourers were in easy circumstances, owing, in part, to the dissipation of too large a proportion of their incomes in alehouses and whisky shops. Since that time, however, both their condition and character have been considerably altered for the better. This agreeable change has been occasioned, partly by the rise in the price of labour, and of all the productions of agriculture, partly by the scarcity and high price of spiritous liquors, and partly by the strong incentives to industry, which the manufactures and ready-money of Carron, together with various rural improvements, have afforded. Though there are still some exceptions, yet they may now, upon the whole, be regarded as a peaceable, sober, and industrious people, contented with their lot, tolerably regular in their attendance upon public worship, and attached to the principles of the British Constitution, by which they find their lives and properties so well secured. If there are any exceptions in this last respect, I believe very few of them will be found among the farmers of any rank. Very few of the native inhabitants, have, at any time, enlisted into the army, and though there may have been occasional irregularities among them, I have heard of no instance of any of them being punished, or even tried, for a capital

capital crime. The accession of prosperity which they have lately experienced, seems to have hitherto proved beneficial in every view; and if they have not yet attained that mediocrity of condition, which is most favourable to *rural felicity*, they are *daily and rapidly* approaching to it.

Advantages and Disadvantages.—From the particulars already stated, it is manifest, that this parish possesses several very capital advantages; advantages arising from the salubrity of its climate, the abundance of its peat, coal, lime, free-stone, and other materials for building; from the number of its roads and bridges, and the ready markets which the villages afford for its various productions.—On the other hand, it is subjected to considerable disadvantages, by the wetness of the climate, the coldness and tenacity of the soil, the lateness of the seed-time and harvest, and especially by the non-residence of the greatest and wealthiest part of the proprietors. I am likewise doubtful, whether I ought not to reckon among its disadvantages, the number of small properties, and small farms or pendicles, which are contained in it. Certain it is, that, of the small proprietors, some have lately, in consequence of negligence and dissipation, been obliged, first to mortgage, and then to sell, very snug possessions, of from L. 50 to L. 100 a-year; while others, though men of sober and inoffensive characters, yet discover no spirit of activity or enterprise. With very little exertion, they can make a shift to exist, as their fathers did before them, and they look for nothing further. Their lands, accordingly, are, for the most part, worse cultivated than those of the tenants, who pay a reasonable rent; their habitations are in some instances more wretched, and their mode of living in every respect more uncomfortable. As to the occupiers of small farms or pendicles, they are neither entirely farmers nor entirely labourers, and generally
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in a worse condition than either. As they are obliged to depend for ploughing their land, either upon hiring, or joining with some of their neighbours, they frequently miss the proper season; and as the produce is usually consumed by their families, they can seldom, without much difficulty, afford to pay even a very moderate rent. Thus they struggle on from year to year, without either improving their possessions, or making any comfortable provision for their families. They contribute to the population of the country indeed, but, in other respects, they contribute, I fear, but little either to its happiness or improvement. In the possession of land, whether by property or lease, it should seem, that there is a certain medium which is most favourable to the industry and comfort of the possessors themselves, and to the general improvement and produce of the country. Though it be undoubtedly desirable, that there should be both properties and farms of various dimensions, yet the nearer the *generality* of both approach to this medium, the interest of the community at large will probably be so much the better secured and promoted. Upon the whole, this parish, in order to arrive at the highest degree of rural improvement of which it is capable, seems to have little more to do but to avail itself, to the utmost, of its natural resources, and to extend and perfect those plans which are already begun and considerably advanced.

Antiquities.—On the northern, though not the highest part of Blackside-end hill, there is a large cairn of stones, without any mixture of earth, which, I think, is rather an uncommon circumstance. At the base, this cairn is about 250 feet in circumference, and its height above the surface of the ground 10 feet. The stones, which, as far as appears, are not large, have, with no small labour, been collected from the hill, and from the bottom of pretty deep chasms
made

made by the rivulets which pour down its sides. Such of the stones as are exposed to the weather, being over-crufted with grey moss, remind me of the grey stones so frequently mentioned in the admirable poems of Ossian. At what time, by whom, and for what purpose, this mass of stones was formed, it is now perhaps impossible to discover. It is not unreasonable to suppose, however, that under it lies the dust of some mighty hero of ancient times, greatly and extensively renowned in his day.

The only other article worthy of notice, under this head, is the Castle of Sorn. By whom, or at what precise time, this castle was built, I have not been able to ascertain; but it was most probably some time in the course of the 14th century, if not at an earlier period. The proprietors of this castle, and their descendants, were once among the most illustrious families in the kingdom, as appears from the following short account, which has been obligingly communicated to me by a right honourable Lady in the neighbourhood, not more distinguished by her rank, than by her character, talents, and general information.

“ About the year 1406, the lands of Sorn, with several others in the district of Kyle, were acquired by Andrew Hamilton, third son of Sir David Hamilton of Cadzow, ancestor to the Duke of Hamilton. This Andrew Hamilton married Agnes, a daughter of Sir Hugh Campbell of Loudon, Sheriff of Ayr, and by her had a son, Sir Robert Hamilton of Sorn and Sanquhar. Sir Robert married a daughter of Sir William Crawford of Lochnorris; and Sir William Hamilton of Sorn and Sanquhar, a son of this marriage, was one of the Senators of the College of Justice, and Lord Treasurer to King James V. This Lord Treasurer married a daughter of the family of Cassillis, by whom he had an heiress, Isobel Hamilton, who married George Lord Seton, and by him was mother to Robert first Earl of Win-

ton, to Alexander first Earl of Dunfermline, and Margaret the wife of Claud Hamilton, Lord Paisley, ancestor to the Earl of Abercorn. The lands and Castle of Sorn were sold by the succeeding Earl of Winton to the family of Loudon, and after remaining in this family upwards of 150 years, they were sold to William Tennent, Esq; of Poole, in 1782."

There is a tradition well authenticated, that King James V. honoured his Treasurer Sir William Hamilton with a visit at Sorn Castle, on occasion of the marriage of his daughter to Lord Seton. The chair on which his Majesty sat on that occasion was always carefully preserved at the castle till the sale of the estate, when it was transferred to Loudon Castle, where it is still kept as a relic of ancient times. It is a large chair of oak, curiously carved; and the arms of Sir William Hamilton are on the back of it in large figures*.

Mr Tennent, beside repairing the old Castle of Sorn in the completest manner, has lately built a large addition to it, nearly upon the same plan. Among other apartments, it contains a very magnificent drawing-room, with a handsome

* The King's visit at Sorn Castle took place in winter; and being heartily tired of his journey, through so long a track of moor, moss, and miry clay, where there was neither road nor bridge, he is reported to have said; with that good humoured pleasantry which was a characteristic of so many of his family, that, "were he to play the Deil a trick, he would send him from Glasgow to Sorn in the middle of winter." The trick now-a-days would not prove a very serious one; for Satan, old as he is, might travel very comfortably one-half of the way in a mail-coach, and the other half in a post-chaise. Neither would he be forced, like King James, for want of better accommodation, to sit down, about mid-way, by the side of a well, (hence called King's Well), and there take a cold refreshment, in a cold day. At that very same place he might now find a tolerable inn and a warm dinner.

some stair-case. Thus repaired and augmented, it now forms at once a spacious, commodious, and most comfortable mansion. This gentleman has very lately sold both the castle and the estate; but as, from some peculiar circumstances, it is still uncertain who is to be the future proprietor, it was not deemed necessary to take any further notice of this change.

Eminent Persons.—If we except the personages already mentioned, I cannot learn that this parish ever gave birth to any person eminently distinguished in any walk of life. This circumstance has not arisen from any deficiency in the natural talents of its inhabitants, (for in this respect they are by no means inferior to their neighbours), but entirely from the want of proper means and opportunities of improving them. Placed in a sequestered, and, till very lately, a poor and uncultivated country; occupied wholly by the concerns of rural life, and far removed from the seats of learning and the scenes of public action, it was but barely possible that any of them should emerge from their native obscurity, and make a shining figure in the world.

“Chill penury repress’d their noble rage,

“And froze the genial current of the soul.”

It may be proper, however, to mention, that Dr Matthew Stewart, late Professor of Mathematics in the University of Edinburgh, so well known over all Europe for his original genius and high attainments in geometrical science, though not a native, was an heritor, and lived many years in this parish.—The statistical writer, too, of some future period, will, I doubt not, record, that one of the brightest ornaments of the same university, and, at the same time, one of the most amiable men of the present age, if not born in this parish, yet passed a great part of his early life in it, and
laid

laid the foundation of those speculations, by which he is now enlightening and charming the minds of so many of our British youth.

It will naturally be expected, that, on this occasion, I should take some notice of Mr Alexander Peden, a clergyman of the last century, who was a native of this parish, where some of his collateral descendants still remain. He was destined to live in the perilous and miserable times which intervened between the Restoration and the Revolution; (times in which the rights of conscience were too little understood and regarded by either party); and he had an ample share in the sufferings in which the Presbyterians of Scotland were then involved, by the cruel and misguided policy of the unfortunate house of Stewart*. In the year 1663, he was settled as minister of the church and parish of New Glenluce in Galloway, and after remaining about three years in this station, he was forced, by the violence of persecution, to abandon it. He skulked about from 1666 till 1673, when he was apprehended, and confined a prisoner, sometimes in Edinburgh, and sometimes on the Bass, till December 1678, when he, together with several other persons, were condemned to be transported to Virginia, and with that view were actually conveyed by sea to London. Soon after their arrival there, however, they were set at liberty, probably in consequence of the interposition of

* The professed object of this policy was to establish an uniformity of opinion and practice in matters of religion; an object which it is utterly impossible ever to attain; and which, if really attained upon any other ground than that of absolute perfection in knowledge, would prove a curse to mankind instead of a blessing. Indeed, the conduct of men must invariably prove absurd and pernicious, where it aims at ends which thwart the established laws of providence. Their true wisdom must ever consist in understanding those laws, and making them the rules of their expectations and of their conduct.

of some powerful friends. But though thus saved from transportation to a foreign land, Mr Peden was by no means permitted to live in peace at home. He was still an object of vengeance, and hunted about from place to place. He found a retreat sometimes in Ireland and sometimes in Scotland, till at length, in January 1686, death put a period to his sufferings and his dangers, in the 60th year of his age.

But the spirit of persecution, whether Catholic or Protestant, whether Episcopalian or Presbyterian, is seldom satisfied with the death of the object which it pursues. It wishes also to destroy the soul in hell; but, secretly conscious of its inability to gratify such wishes, it endeavours to satiate its implacable fury by outrages on the body. This actually happened in the case now under consideration. The body of Mr Peden, after being buried about six weeks in the church-aisle belonging to the family of Auchinleck, was raised from its grave, and, as a mark of ignominy, carried to the village of Old Cumnock, and there interred at the foot of the gallows. His sincere and fervent piety, his zeal, constancy, and sufferings, in what was generally deemed the cause of truth and liberty; these virtues, joined to a good deal of sagacity in forming probable conjectures respecting the future, and to something sententious and oracular in his manner and conversation, all conspired to gain him the reputation of a prophet among the common people of this country, both in his own and succeeding times; a distinction which he enjoyed in common with several others of his contemporaries and associates. That the gracious Ruler of the world may, on some particular occasions, impart to those who are suffering severely in a good cause, previous intimations of future events, in which their own fate or that of their oppressors is deeply concerned, it would, I think, be rash and unwarrantable positively to deny. In general,

general, however, the gifts of prophecy and of discerning spirits, which were so fondly ascribed to Mr Peden and some of his fellow-sufferers, will not easily be admitted by thinking men in the present age; especially when it is recollected, that these gifts were sometimes exercised in detecting and exposing witches. But whatever errors and imperfections a more enlightened and peaceable age may discover in the principles and conduct of this good man, and in those who acted and suffered with him, they will always be entitled to the esteem and gratitude of their countrymen, not only on account of the high virtues which they possessed, but also on account of the share which they had in preparing the way for the establishment of our civil liberties by the Revolution, and in maintaining, at the expence of a thousand hardships and perils, our *Ecclesiastical constitution*; a constitution which, though like that of most other Christian societies, built perhaps upon too narrow a foundation, has, nevertheless, at a very small expence, been in several respects eminently serviceable to the country.

Though, therefore, this constitution be not without its enemies, and though even the *rock of poverty*, on which it was said, by a celebrated statesman, to be founded, be not absolutely impregnable, yet it is to be hoped, that when its basis is extended a little, it may still stand immoveable for ages, and prove a *rock of defence* to solid learning, sound morals, sacred truth, and rational liberty, both civil and religious.

ACCOUNT OF THE

VILLAGE OF CATRINE.

By the Rev. Mr ROBERT STEVEN Minister.

Village of Catrine.

THE village of Catrine takes its name from the lands both on the north and south side of the river of Ayr. It is situated on the north side of the river, and on the western extremity of the parish of Sorn. Its situation is romantic and delightful. The banks on both sides being well wooded, defend it from almost every wind that blows. Few places in the same latitude, and so far inland, (being 14 miles from the seaport-town of Ayr), can boast of a warmer climate. It is generally a fortnight earlier than any other part of the parish. The access to it is from the north and south. But as there is only a wooden bridge over the river, for the accommodation of foot-travellers, in time of floods it is inaccessible by horses or carriages from that quarter.—The village is of an oblong form; in the middle of which there is a square of 300 feet, with streets leading from

from it on the east, south, and west; and from which there are several cross streets, at right angles *.

Manufactures.—Catrine is entirely a new creation, and owes its existence to the flourishing state of the cotton manufacture in Great Britain. In the year 1787, Mr Alexander of Ballochmyle, the proprietor of the village, in partnership with the patriotic Mr Dale of Glasgow, built a cotton twist-mill in the centre of the above square, with a fall of water, from the dam-head to where it returns again to the river, of 46 feet. A jeanerie factory and a corn-mill are drove by the same fall. It is likewise proposed to erect a waulk or fulling mill on this stream of water. The twist-mill consists of 5 square stories, besides garrets; and contains 5240 spindles, which are all going at present (December 1796). Three hundred and one persons, old and young, are just now employed, in carding, roving, and in spinning, with an overseer and two clerks: Clock-makers, smiths, mill-wrights, and other mechanics, amount to 15 more. The women, who pick cotton in their own houses, are at present 226. In all, belonging to the twist-mill, by last return, 445. Of these, 118 are under 12 years of age; 128 are between 12 and 20; and 200 are above 20 years of age. The total amount of wages paid from October 30. 1795, to October 28. 1796, is L. 3193 Sterling; and, as far as can be ascertained, the average quantity of cotton spun weekly is 2660 lbs. In the year 1790, the same company built a jeanerie factory, which contains 76 jeanies. The carding, roving, &c. are performed by the tail-water of the twist-mill. Here 200 persons, including an overseer, two clerks, and

* The proprietor binds all those who feu in the principal street, (which is 66 feet wide, with the tail-water of the twist-mill, running through the centre of it), to build their houses two stories high, and to slate them.

and mechanics, find constant employment, besides 55 women who pick cotton in their own houses. Forty-three are under 12 years of age; 72 from 12 to 20; the rest are above 20 years of age. The wages *per* week are about L. 80 Sterling.

Children are not admitted into the work under 9 years old; and they all lodge with their parents or friends. It is but justice to add, that both old and young enjoy uniformly good health. The different apartments are kept as clean and free of dust as possible; and stated hours are allowed for amusement and exercise. The writer of this Report can safely declare, that during his residence here, (since 1791), he has met with fewer diseases of any kind than might reasonably have been expected among the same number of people, engaged in any other employment.

One cause of health, among the people in these cotton-works, may be ascribed to a plan of farming, on a small scale, which Mr Alexander has judiciously introduced. He makes the overseer of his farm set off annually from 15 to 25 acres of ground, according to the quantity of dung the villagers may have saved in the course of the year. The dung or ashes is led out at his expence; and he ploughs and harrows the ground with his own horses. On the land thus thoroughly prepared, they plant a sufficient quantity of potatoes for their winter's provision. They pay him from 4 d. to 6 d. *per* fall, according to the quality of the ground. The dressing of these potatoes is the employment of both old and young on the summer evenings, after they are dismissed from the mills. The exercise, and smell of the new turned-up earth, must undoubtedly be beneficial to their health; and their emulation to have the best and cleanest crop renders them all very industrious. It is an extremely pleasant sight, on a fine summer's evening, to see such a number of people so usefully employed. The proprietor of the lands, too, finds his advantage in it.

The change which a few years have produced in the appearance of the ground, in the vicinity of this manufacturing village, is truly astonishing. Some years ago, Mr Alexander made a number of small inclosures, in the immediate neighbourhood of the village, for the accommodation of those inhabitants who wished to keep milch cows. He dressed them with potatoes on the above plan; and, after taking a crop of beer or barley, with the succeeding hay-crop, he let them out by the year in grass, at L. 1, 13 s. *per* acre. The same land did not yield him formerly 10 s. *per* acre, on a 19 years lease. Within these few weeks, he has sown down a field, of about 13 or 14 acres, with wheat, which produced a crop of potatoes last summer, dressed by the villagers.

Mr Alexander retains a farm of some hundred acres in his own hands; but as it, and the most of his landed property, lie in the neighbouring parish of Mauchline, a description of his spirited improvements, as a farmer, does not fall to my province.

Weaving is only in its infancy here; however, a hundred looms are erected, but they are seldom all occupied at the same time. At present 91 are at work, and are chiefly employed by the cotton manufacturers in Glasgow and Paisley. The yarn spun here is sent to Glasgow weekly by the Company's carrier.

A brewery was built in the year 1793, by the proprietor of the village, and let to a very respectable gentleman in Kilmarnock, with a view to introduce malt-liquor in place of whisky, which has so baneful an effect on the morals of the people. It gives me pleasure to add, that this benevolent scheme has, in a great degree, answered its purpose; for nearly 500 bolls of malt are brewed annually. The brewery is not completed; for only a part of the original plan

plan was at first executed, from the uncertainty of its success.

Population.—Catrine contains in all 1350 souls—650 males, and 700 females. Thirty-seven of these are Anti-burgher, and 278 are Burgher Seceders, who attend divine service in their respective churches, at Auchinleck and Cumnock. The number of births cannot be accurately ascertained; for the Seceders here, as in most other places through Scotland, do not register their childrens names in the session-records. However, at an average, for the 4 preceding years, 40 children belonging to the Established Church have been annually baptized. No account can be given of the deaths; for although it is part of the original plan of the village, as yet there is no churchyard here, and the inhabitants bury in all the neighbouring parishes. Ten couple are married annually. To account for the disproportion between the births and marriages, give me leave to add, that the great body of the inhabitants were married before they came to reside in this place; and many of the young people, of both sexes, marry in other parishes.

In the year 1793, the inhabitants consisted of 1601 souls; of course, the Company have, at present, a great many empty houses; for which, if they could find tenants, they and their families would be fully employed.—Exclusive of those engaged in the cotton manufacture, there are the following mechanics, viz. 3 blacksmiths; 6 house-carpenters; 7 masons; 7 tailors; 6 shoemakers; 1 dyer; 1 flaxdresser; 1 baker; 2 butchers; 91 weavers, including apprentices; 2 sawers; 1 corn-miller; 3 brewers, including the clerk; 15 day-labourers; 7 shopkeepers; and 7 or 8 alehouses.

The prices of provisions, wages, &c. are nearly the same as in the country part of the parish.

Few

Few examples of so rapid an increase of population are to be found; for in the year 1787, two or three thatched houses occupied the place where this thriving village now stands.

Character of the People.—In such a multitude, collected from different parts of the kingdom, we may reasonably expect to find some of very exceptionable morals. To prevent, however, the worthless, as much as possible, from obtaining an establishment, certificates are required from the respective parishes in which they last resided. The persons who work in the twist-mill and jeanerie factory, are obliged to pay unwearied attention to their different departments; which, perhaps, has no small influence in counteracting the bad habits they may have acquired in an idler scene of life. Their sobriety is at least equal, if not superior, to their neighbours in the different villages. It may not, however, be improper to remark, that this regularity is chiefly owing to the indefatigable attention of Mr Alexander. He endeavours to learn the real character and circumstances of each individual; and whilst he gives every encouragement to the sober and industrious, he dismisses the riotous and idle, as unworthy to eat the Company's bread. Permit me to add, that superior penetration and prudence mark all the operations of this spirited and truly patriotic gentleman.

Church and School.—From this increase of population, the parish church could not nearly accommodate the inhabitants; therefore, in the year 1792, a subscription for building a Chapel of Ease here was set on foot. Its promising appearance at first, induced Mr Alexander to set out ground for the site of the chapel; and he himself subscribed for the masonry of it. The building was accordingly begun

gun in the spring of that year, and finished in the spring following. The house measures 80 feet long, by $52\frac{1}{2}$ wide over the walls. It has also a large projection in front, for 2 stairs to the galleries, and for the steeple, when they shall be erected. Many of the subscribers failed to pay the amount of their subscriptions. There was not more than L. 80 Sterling of the whole collected. Mr Alexander, therefore, advanced above L. 750 Sterling on the security of the seat-rents, but has not, as yet, received a single farthing of either principal or interest. Had feuing gone on as briskly as it did previous to the year 1793, it is presumed this gentleman would have been reimbursed in a few years for this great outlay; but the scarcity of hands, all over the country, has put an entire stop to feuing. Indeed, the population of the village has decreased considerably since that period, as mentioned in another part of this Report. The seats erected in the area of the chapel, have never yet been completely filled. When the galleries are put up, the chapel will contain above 1500 sitters. It is beautifully situated on rising ground, which commands a view of the whole village and the surrounding banks. It is esteemed a great ornament to the place.

The author of this Report, was ordained, by the Presbytery of Ayr, to serve the cure, on the 12th of September 1792. The living is only L. 60 annually, without manse or glebe; a sum perfectly inadequate to the necessary expences of a clergyman. The slender funds of this infant establishment, cannot admit of an augmentation of stipend. If properly represented, the Company would probably allow at least a free house.

The Company pay a very laudable attention to the morals and education of youth. They have built a large school-room, and appointed a schoolmaster, with an annual salary of L. 15 Sterling, and a free house, equal to L. 3, 5 s. more; for

for which he teaches the children employed in the work from 7 to 9 o'clock in the evening. The emoluments of his day-school will amount to L. 15 annually. He is allowed an assistant for the evening-school, who receives from the Company L. 5 yearly. The assistant is employed in the twist-mill, during the day, as under-clerk. The teachers meet the children in school on Sabbath mornings, catechise them, and conduct them to church; and the Company pay for their seats.

Diseases.—No disease is peculiar to the place. A few die of consumptions and fevers. It gives me pleasure to add, that inoculation for the small-pox almost universally prevails.

Antiquities.—According to tradition a Popish chapel once stood a little to the east of the village. It was probably dedicated to St Cuthbert; for the surrounding field, (in the form of an amphitheatre), is called St Cuthbert's Holm. At the upper end of this field, part of a street is built, for the accommodation of the manufacturers. The supposed site of the chapel and churchyard has, for years past, been under tillage. In removing a large cairn of stones, at a small distance from the place, 7 or 8 large urns were found, full of human dust and bones: they fell to pieces on being exposed to the open air. They were formed in the rudest manner, and had evidently been dried in the sun. Tradition says, the plague was buried there. The probability, however, is, that St Cuthbert's Holm was once the scene of a very bloody battle, perhaps before the introduction of Christianity into Scotland; for the bones found in the urns, and every where in the cairn, had evidently been burned.

Minerals.

Minerals.—In this holm there is also an inexhaustible bed of free-stone. It is easily wrought, and is of a durable quality. As lime is at a small distance, building is perhaps as cheap here as in most places in the kingdom. Several coal-pits are wrought, at the distance of 2 or 3 miles. Indeed, the village most probably stands on coal.

Means of Improvement.—A stone-bridge over the river of Ayr, to open the communication to the south, would not only be of great utility to the place, but to the public at large. It would also be much for the advantage of Catrine if it were erected into a burgh of barony, when there would be a bailie or magistrate on the spot, to decide petty causes.

Miscellaneous Observations.—There is no market-day here. The farmers around sell the produce of their lands to the shopkeepers, who supply the inhabitants by retail. They, instead of being obliged, as formerly, to carry the produce of their farms to Kilmarnock or Ayr, at the distance of 12 or 14 miles, find a ready, and an equally advantageous, market for it at their own doors. This is not only an immense saving of time, but also of the necessary expence of carriage. Butter-milk, and whey, which were, before the commencement of the cotton trade here, of little use, now bring ready money to the farmer. In this view, manufactures must prove highly beneficial to the public, and to the husbandman in particular. Urged by the strongest of all motives, *gain*, he will highly improve those fields which formerly lay neglected and barren. The lower classes of people and their families, who, a few years ago, were idle, for want of employment, now find abundance of work, with good wages; of course, they are well lodged, and fed and clothed in a comfortable manner. In short, these cotton-works

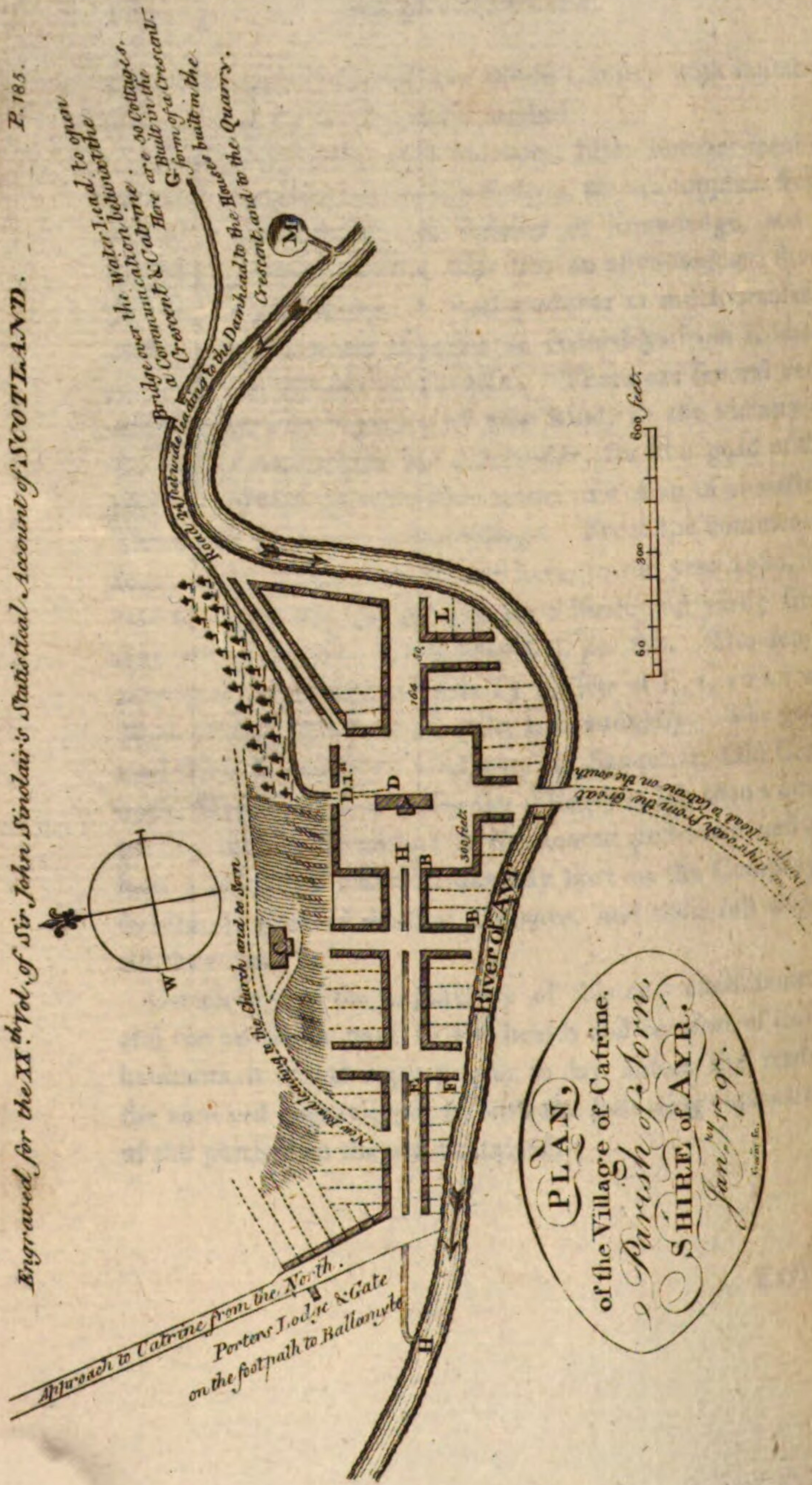
ton-works have inspired the whole country with industry and exertion for several miles around.

Although we have two butchers, little butcher-meat is killed in the place : at certain seasons, we are supplied from Ayr and Kilmarnock. A butcher of knowledge, and a little ready money, would find this an advantageous situation for his profession. A mail-gardener is much wanted : greens and roots are brought on Saturdays from Kilmarnock, at the distance of 12 miles. There are several very proper places for a garden of this kind, in the vicinity of the village, and which Mr Alexander, for the good of the place, would let on reasonable terms to a man of character. There are 30 feuers in the village. From the commencement of the cotton manufacture here, to the year 1789, the rate of feuing was 4 d. *per* fall, for a house and yard ; from that period to this, it has been 6 d. *per* fall. The feu is perpetual.—A room 16 feet by 14 lets at L. 1, 10 s. ; or, when finished in a superior stile, L. 2 annually. The great road from Dumfries to Glasgow, by Sanquhar, Old Cumnock, Mauchline, &c. passes the village, in less than a quarter of a mile. Mauchline is the nearest post-town, and distant 3 miles.—Persons accidentally hurt in the Company's service are allowed medical assistance, and their full wages, till they recover.

On account of the importance of this new establishment, and the attention paid to the health and comfort of its inhabitants, it was thought proper to lay before the reader, the annexed engraving of it, with the following explanation of the particulars therein contained.

EXPLA-

1862-1863. 1864-1865. 1866-1867. 1868-1869. 1870-1871. 1872-1873. 1874-1875. 1876-1877. 1878-1879. 1880-1881. 1882-1883. 1884-1885. 1886-1887. 1888-1889. 1890-1891. 1892-1893. 1894-1895. 1896-1897. 1898-1899. 1900-1901. 1902-1903. 1904-1905. 1906-1907. 1908-1909. 1910-1911. 1912-1913. 1914-1915. 1916-1917. 1918-1919. 1920-1921. 1922-1923. 1924-1925. 1926-1927. 1928-1929. 1930-1931. 1932-1933. 1934-1935. 1936-1937. 1938-1939. 1940-1941. 1942-1943. 1944-1945. 1946-1947. 1948-1949. 1950-1951. 1952-1953. 1954-1955. 1956-1957. 1958-1959. 1960-1961. 1962-1963. 1964-1965. 1966-1967. 1968-1969. 1970-1971. 1972-1973. 1974-1975. 1976-1977. 1978-1979. 1980-1981. 1982-1983. 1984-1985. 1986-1987. 1988-1989. 1990-1991. 1992-1993. 1994-1995. 1996-1997. 1998-1999. 2000-2001. 2002-2003. 2004-2005. 2006-2007. 2008-2009. 2010-2011. 2012-2013. 2014-2015. 2016-2017. 2018-2019. 2020-2021. 2022-2023. 2024-2025. 2026-2027. 2028-2029. 2030-2031. 2032-2033. 2034-2035. 2036-2037. 2038-2039. 2040-2041. 2042-2043. 2044-2045. 2046-2047. 2048-2049. 2050-2051. 2052-2053. 2054-2055. 2056-2057. 2058-2059. 2060-2061. 2062-2063. 2064-2065. 2066-2067. 2068-2069. 2070-2071. 2072-2073. 2074-2075. 2076-2077. 2078-2079. 2080-2081. 2082-2083. 2084-2085. 2086-2087. 2088-2089. 2090-2091. 2092-2093. 2094-2095. 2096-2097. 2098-2099. 2100-2101. 2102-2103. 2104-2105. 2106-2107. 2108-2109. 2110-2111. 2112-2113. 2114-2115. 2116-2117. 2118-2119. 2120-2121. 2122-2123. 2124-2125. 2126-2127. 2128-2129. 2130-2131. 2132-2133. 2134-2135. 2136-2137. 2138-2139. 2140-2141. 2142-2143. 2144-2145. 2146-2147. 2148-2149. 2150-2151. 2152-2153. 2154-2155. 2156-2157. 2158-2159. 2160-2161. 2162-2163. 2164-2165. 2166-2167. 2168-2169. 2170-2171. 2172-2173. 2174-2175. 2176-2177. 2178-2179. 2180-2181. 2182-2183. 2184-2185. 2186-2187. 2188-2189. 2190-2191. 2192-2193. 2194-2195. 2196-2197. 2198-2199. 2200-2201. 2202-2203. 2204-2205. 2206-2207. 2208-2209. 2210-2211. 2212-2213. 2214-2215. 2216-2217. 2218-2219. 2220-2221. 2222-2223. 2224-2225. 2226-2227. 2228-2229. 2230-2231. 2232-2233. 2234-2235. 2236-2237. 2238-2239. 2240-2241. 2242-2243. 2244-2245. 2246-2247. 2248-2249. 2250-2251. 2252-2253. 2254-2255. 2256-2257. 2258-2259. 2260-2261. 2262-2263. 2264-2265. 2266-2267. 2268-2269. 2270-2271. 2272-2273. 2274-2275. 2276-2277. 2278-2279. 2280-2281. 2282-2283. 2284-2285. 2286-2287. 2288-2289. 2290-2291. 2292-2293. 2294-2295. 2296-2297. 2298-2299. 2300-2301. 2302-2303. 2304-2305. 2306-2307. 2308-2309. 2310-2311. 2312-2313. 2314-2315. 2316-2317. 2318-2319. 2320-2321. 2322-2323. 2324-2325. 2326-2327. 2328-2329. 2330-2331. 2332-2333. 2334-2335. 2336-2337. 2338-2339. 2340-2341. 2342-2343. 2344-2345. 2346-2347. 2348-2349. 2350-2351. 2352-2353. 2354-2355. 2356-2357. 2358-2359. 2360-2361. 2362-2363. 2364-2365. 2366-2367. 2368-2369. 2370-2371. 2372-2373. 2374-2375. 2376-2377. 2378-2379. 2380-2381. 2382-2383. 2384-2385. 2386-2387. 2388-2389. 2390-2391. 2392-2393. 2394-2395. 2396-2397. 2398-2399. 2400-2401. 2402-2403. 2404-2405. 2406-2407. 2408-2409. 2410-2411. 2412-2413. 2414-2415. 2416-2417. 2418-2419. 2420-2421. 2422-2423. 2424-2425. 2426-2427. 2428-2429. 2430-2431. 2432-2433. 2434-2435. 2436-2437. 2438-2439. 2440-2441. 2442-2443. 2444-2445. 2446-2447. 2448-2449. 2450-2451. 2452-2453. 2454-2455. 2456-2457. 2458-2459. 2460-2461. 2462-2463. 2464-2465. 2466-2467. 2468-2469. 2470-2471. 2472-2473. 2474-2475. 2476-2477. 2478-2479. 2480-2481. 2482-2483. 2484-2485. 2486-2487. 2488-2489. 2490-2491. 2492-2493. 2494-2495. 2496-2497. 2498-2499. 2500-2501. 2502-2503. 2504-2505. 2506-2507. 2508-2509. 2510-2511. 2512-2513. 2514-2515. 2516-2517. 2518-2519. 2520-2521. 2522-2523. 2524-2525. 2526-2527. 2528-2529. 2530-2531. 2532-2533. 2534-2535. 2536-2537. 2538-2539. 2540-2541. 2542-2543. 2544-2545. 2546-2547. 2548-2549. 2550-2551. 2552-2553. 2554-2555. 2556-2557. 2558-2559. 2560-2561. 2562-2563. 2564-2565. 2566-2567. 2568-2569. 2570-2571. 2572-2573. 2574-2575. 2576-2577. 2578-2579. 2580-2581. 2582-2583. 2584-2585. 2586-2587. 2588-2589. 2590-2591. 2592-2593. 2594-2595. 2596-2597. 2598-2599. 2600-2601. 2602-2603. 2604-2605. 26



EXPLANATION.

A, The twist-mill, in the centre of a square of 300 feet.

The great wheel has a fall of $29\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

B to B, The jeanie factory; the carding and roving in which is performed by the water after it comes from the twist-mill; the lade from which is all arched.

C, The church.

DD, Is an aqueduct-bridge, which conveys the water from the hill to the top of the twist-mill wheel.

E, Is the corn-mill, and is also worked by the tail-water of the twist-mill.

F, Is a situation feued for a wauk or fulling mill.

From G to D $1\frac{1}{2}$, Is the water brought from the dam to the aqueduct-bridge.

H to H, Is the tail-water from the twist-mill; it is arched until it passes through the square, and then runs through the centre of the principal street, with bridges over it opposite to the three cross streets.

I, Is a proposed bridge over the river Ayr, to communicate with the Dumfries road.

L, A brewery.

M, A fine free-stone quarry.

N. B. The proprietor of the village of Catrine does not feu to the river side, but has reserved the ground along the river for a walk, 12 or 15 feet broad, for the health of the inhabitants, and which he is now facing with a stone and lime wall.

NUMBER VIII.

PARISH OF KIRKOWEN.

(COUNTY OF GALLOWAY, SYNOD OF GLASGOW AND AYR,
PRESBYTERY OF WIGTON.)

By the Rev. JOHN DICKSON, Minister.

KIRKOWEN is evidently so called from some person of the name of Owen, to whom probably the church was originally dedicated.

Situation and Extent.—The parish is situated in the county of Galloway, and presbytery of Wigton. It is somewhat of a triangular figure, and of very considerable extent. Its length, from north-west to south-east, is about 15 miles. Its greatest breadth is between 6 and 7 miles; and its smallest breadth is not much above 1. On the north and east, it is bounded by the parish of Penningham; on the south and east, by the parish of Kirkinner; on the south and west, by the parishes of Mochrum, Old and New Luce; and

and on the north and west, by that division of Ayrshire called Carrick.

Rivers.—The river Bladenoch runs along the north-east side of this parish, and forms a natural boundary between it and the parish of Penningham. This river rises from a lake called Loch Macbeary, situated mostly between the two parishes of Kirkowen and Penningham; but a small part of it extends beyond the Galloway march, into Carrick. There are several small islands in it, upon the largest of which are the remains of a considerable building, and small garden; but, at present, these islands are famous only as the habitation of some eagles, which have chosen them as a place of safety. The river, which has its source in this lake, runs in a south-east direction for about two-thirds of its length, after which it takes a more easterly course, and empties itself into the Bay of Wigton. Its whole length, abstracting from the windings of the river, is about 24 miles. Tarf is another river, on the south-west side of the parish, which rises from a bog in Carrick, which, after a course of about 12 miles, crosses the parish to the eastward, and joins Bladenoch a little to the south-east of this church.

Roads.—The military road from Carlisle to Port-Patrick crosses the parish, about 2 miles to the northward of the parish church. Besides this, several roads have been made since an act of Parliament was passed for converting the statute-labour of the county into money. This act has already produced very good effects, and, in time, will turn out still more beneficial.

Soil.—The surface of this district is various, consisting of moorlands interspersed with plots of arable; but the greatest
part

part is moor. The soil of the arable land, in the north-west end of the parish, is cold and thin, and produces little other kind of grain than black oats. The arable land, in the south-east end of the parish, is of a better quality, and bears a greater proportion to the pasture land than in the other end. In general, it is a light, dry, stoney soil, which, after lime or dung, yields excellent crops of oats or barley. Lime has been but very lately introduced here as a manure; but since the improvement of our roads, very considerable quantities of it have been used in this way. It is brought to us, in the state of shells, from Whitehaven, and drawn to the land mostly in single-horse carts. Some of the farmers have to carry it to the distance of 10 or 12 miles; and the smallest distance of any of them to a sea-port is not less than 6. The grain raised in the parish is considerably more than sufficient to supply the inhabitants.

Cattle.—The horse and cattle bred in this district, require no particular description, as they are well known over a great part of the island by the name of Galloways, and are allowed every where to be excellent of their kind. The number of horses in the parish is about 200; the black-cattle amount to about 1600; and the sheep to near 10,000. Wethers of 3 and 4 years old, weigh from 38 to 42 lbs. Our wool is of different qualities; but that which is got from the sheep which feed upon the fells is reckoned the finest. There are several of these fells in this parish; but none of them deserves a particular description. It is probable, however, that one of them, upon the Carrick march, has a greater elevation above the level of the sea than any other land in this county.

Rent.—An account of the rent of this parish was given in to the Court of Teinds about 36 years ago, when the sum so stated

stated was L. 820. The present incumbent, in 1792, stated the rent to the same Court at somewhat above L. 2200. Since that time the rent has been considerably advanced. The increase of the rental, in the period above mentioned, is, no doubt, principally owing to the increase of prices. The enlargement of farms, and the farmer's better management of his flocks, have likewise had their effect in raising the value of lands in their possession. The mode of management among the farmers, for some time past, has been, to keep fewer beasts, and to feed them better. The farmer, no doubt, finds his account in pursuing this plan, and, of course, part of the profit will go to the proprietor. A similar observation will hold good with respect to the enlargement of farms. The person who employs the greatest stock in trade can afford to deal upon the least profit.

Population.—The population of this parish has evidently decreased within these 40 years. According to my predecessor's account, about that time it amounted to 800 souls. At present it is somewhat below 700. The population of a village at the church has considerably increased during the period above mentioned; of course, the decrease of population has happened solely among the possessors of land. This is easily accounted for from the enlargement of farms. The same farm which formerly contained several tenants, is now, in most places, occupied by one only. Though our population has decreased in the course of 40 years, yet for a considerable time of the latter part of that period it appears to have been stationary. The average number of births exceed that of funerals; but the surplus of our population goes to supply or increase the population of other places. The return to Dr Webster in 1755, was 795 souls.

Poor.

Poor.—There are no funds mortified for the poor of this parish: they are chiefly supported by the weekly collection at the church; but when this fund falls short of the purpose, they are further assisted by other charitable donations from the people, who are always ready to listen to the calls of humanity. In this manner they are supplied, according to their different necessities, when in health, and properly taken care of when sick.

Birds and Fishes.—There are no birds here, either native or migratory, but such as are common to this part of the island. It only deserves notice, that grouse and black game abound both in this and the neighbouring parishes. The fishes to be found here, are, salmon, trout, pike, eels, some perches, and lampreys. The salmon come up our rivers when they are swelled by the rains, and are chiefly caught in nets. They are not, however, taken in such quantity as to be cured for exportation; but are partly consumed in the parish, and partly sold in the neighbouring towns. Trout and pike not only abound in the rivers of Bladenoch and Tarf, but likewise in the lakes and streams, of which there are a considerable number in this parish. Eels are not sought after, though it is well known that they might be caught in great numbers, when they come down from the lakes, in the latter end of harvest, to spawn. Perches having been but lately introduced into Bladenoch, are as yet very scarce. The lamprey is but a rare species in this place, and rather avoided than sought after by the fishermen, from an apprehension that their bite is so highly malignant as to be incurable.

Tumuli, &c.—There is a green tumulus in this parish, about a mile distant from the church. These tumuli are generally now considered as monuments raised over the dead.

dead. Few, however, or almost none, have been opened in the island, to ascertain this fact. I saw one in this county opened, in which there was found a great number of human bones. There were two white cairns opened in this parish; in the middle of each there was found a grave, formed of flag-stones, containing an urn with burnt bones in it.—In the tumulus, the body had been buried in the earth; in the cairns, the body had been mostly consumed by fire before burial.

To conclude, this parish, after supplying its inhabitants, affords a considerable quantity of grain, great numbers of sheep and black-cattle, and a considerable quantity of wool, to be disposed of annually in other markets. Besides these primary advantages, it affords abundance of amusement to the sportsman and the angler.

NUM-

NUMBER IX.

PARISH OF DYKE, INCLUDING THE
ANNEXED PARISH OF MOY.

(COUNTY OF ELGIN AND FORRES, SYNOD OF MORAY,
PRESBYTERY OF FORRES.)

By the Rev. JOHN DUNBAR.

SINCE the union of these parishes in 1618, custom has comprehended the annexed parish of Moy under the name of the other, both parishes now resorting to one church at Dyke. The separate parishes had their names from the villages where their respective churches were first erected; and these being of Gaelic derivation, are sufficiently descriptive of local circumstances.

Names and their Derivation.—Dik, or Dyk, as it was written of old, is from *Dig*, a water-drain or ditch. Lesly Bishop of Ross, in the 9th book of his History, calls this village

village a municipium; but no traces of any municipal privileges now remain.

Moy is from *Maigh*, a plain; which being remarkable for its fine level extent and fertility, is, by way of distinction, called the Moy, and formerly the Mey. In this plain were two distinct contiguous estates, now vested in one proprietor, called the Easter and Wester Mey. Each of these had a village of its own name. In the village and lands of Easter Moy * stood a prebendary church. The burial-ground around it is yet in use.

Bearing and Situation.—This united parish, by an observation taken at the shore, is in $57^{\circ} 26' 21''$ north latitude. It lies in the synod of Moray, the presbytery of Forres, and county of Elgin and Forres; being situated on the south coast of the Moray Frith, and on the west side of the river Findern, excepting only the lands of Upper and Nether Buchtalies, and the lands of Moy Carse, on the right side, or east of that river. It is the most westerly coast parish in the presbytery or county to which it belongs; being west of the

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parishes

* Easter Moy is one of those insulated districts which has been appended to a different county from that wherein it lies, and is subject to the jurisdiction of the county of Nairn, because it had belonged to the Thaness of Calder while they were hereditary Sheriffs of Nairn. There are many instances, both in South and North Britain, of particular spots so connected with distant counties, that are in some cases very remote. Such appendages were made *per annexationem*, after the introduction of the feudal system, to gratify the haughty spirit of the feudal Barons, who would neither reside, nor let their vassals live, under any other jurisdiction but their own. If the act vesting heritable jurisdictions in the Crown has not already made suitable provision, express or implied, for a more near and ready administration of justice, against the inhabitants of lands and tenements annexed to remote counties, the aforesaid encroachments of the feudal system, on the former divisions of the kingdom, may be productive, in some cases, of inconveniences, not undeserving the notice of the Legislature.

parishes of Kinloss and Forreths; north of Edinkellie; and east of the parish of Auldearn and county of Nairn. It is an irregular four-cornered figure, running up the Frith for about 6 miles along shore, from that corner opposite to Findern harbour, till it reaches the mouth of the Ellands Bourne, over against the opening into Cromarty Bay. From thence another of its boundaries stretches up through the easter end of the Hardmoor*, in a southerly direction, for a great way into another heath, called the Broad Shaw. This boundary, from the shore, separates the barony of Brodie and Torreftry lands, in this parish, from the lands of Inshough, Boghole, and Moynes, in the parish of Auldearn, and county of Nairn. The other boundaries are too irregular for description.

Extent and Contents.—The superficial extent of this irregular figure may be about 21 square miles; containing 2697 Scots acres of corn-field, 1191 acres of natural and planted wood, and the rest in pasture, heath, and exhausted mosses, with a sandy desert all along the shore; which desert is a full half of the whole contents. There are evident marks of an early population in different places of this extensive and deserted track, which has been entirely flat, till overwhelmed by sand from the sea. On the outside of this sandy desert there is a high bank, which may be traced almost

* Where this boundary crosses the heath called the Hardmoor, there lies somewhere a solitary spot of *classic ground*, unheeded here, but much renowned in Drury, for the Thane of Glamis's interview with the Wayward or Weird Sisters, in what some editions call the *Harmore* scene of the tragedy of Macbeth. Here the inventive genius of Shakespeare, so predominant in the supernatural and sublime, catching the hint from old tradition, has conjured up a night-piece of infernal horror, well adapted to suggest the hellish purpose, and forward the bloody work, that set the Usurper on the throne.

most to Inverness. This bank has, in many places, limited the inundation.

Above this bank, to the south-east, there is another extensive plain, of moorish ground, which has been turfed to the gravel. Though unfit for culture, it is well adapted to the production of firs. It has been tried with success since the commons were divided, and will now be enclosed and planted without delay.

Surface.—In the easter end of the parish, the cultivated lands are uncommonly flat and smooth; but, upwards from the moor last mentioned, the cultivated land, in the wester end, rises in a gentle acclivity toward the south.

The surface of the cultivated parts, is agreeably diversified with flats and easy slopes, and beautified by the windings of running-water, skirted with natural wood. There are clumps upon eminences; trees about farm-steads; gentlemen's seats finely situated, with gardens, orchards, and hedged inclosures around them; and the whole is surrounded with thriving plantations, rising one above another, with a variety of shade and prospect, which gives the inland parts an appearance that may be called picturesque.

Soil.—The soil, which has been much exhausted by an early culture, and a long continuance of incessant cropping, is in some places a brown, and in others a black loam, generally light, kindly, and of easy culture. At present it is more remarkable for sure and early crops of well filled grain, than for many returns of the seed, which is liberally bestowed at a boll or upwards *per* acre, to keep down weeds; so that the average of crops cannot be stated at more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ or 4 returns. The ground is not enough retentive of moisture, and consumes dung quickly. Under some of the thinner soils, there lies, about 6 inches from the surface,

face, a tawny or brownish coloured sand, which adheres in large masses. It must be carefully avoided by the plough, as destructive of vegetation. A judicious use of lime, which could be had from Sunderland at 4 d. *per* meal firlo, would, by attracting the dews, bring a more copious supply of nightly moisture; and a plentiful use of the lighter clays, even in compost dunghills, would give a firmer texture to the soil, to retain the moisture which it receives, and would enrich the ground that has been injudiciously impoverished, by intermixing the barren surface of turfed moors, and by heaping on sand where there is already more than enough.

Nature and Extent of the Sea Coast.—The coast, though it be every where flat, shallow, and sandy, is seldom prejudicial to ships, which, in passing up and down, can keep the deep water, under cover of the bold coast and mountains of Ross; and Cromarty Bay is a harbour of safety, which is never inaccessible. Here are no kelp rocks, nor is sea-weed cast out in any quantity for manure. The coast, of about 6 miles extent in this parish, presents no situation for an harbour; nor does it afford productions of sponges, corals, or weeds, worth notice.

At the back shore, behind Cullen, there are beds of cockles of the best quality. They are the perquisite of the poor, who rake them out of the sand at ebb of tide, both for sustenance and sale. The muscles on this side are considered as property, and carefully looked after, being in request as bait for white-fish. There was formerly a boat and crew for white-fishing at Hill of Findern, in this parish, which was a great convenience, and often furnished hands for the navy. It was suppressed by a former proprietor, and the fishers set adrift, because the cost of upholding the boat seemed to exceed the rent. But, at the increased prices of
fish

fish since that time, it might yet be an object for the new proprietor, to set the white-fish business afloat again.

It would also be a great convenience, if a quay were to be erected on the west side of the river mouth, below Benness, where ships from Findern harbour might come over and lie to, for unlading lime and coals for the use of this parish, and for receiving the grain and wood wherewith it abounds. This would save a long carriage round the Bay, and prevent the detention of corn ships by the swells of the river, which wind raises as well as rain, to be frequently impassable. This might be done without any prejudice to the dues of Findern harbour.

Lakes.—There are no lakes of any considerable magnitude. We have several springs impregnated with iron; but none of any remarkable strength or efficacy.

Rivers and Streams.—Our only river is the Ern or Findern, not navigable, but of considerable value for its salmon fishings; and there are four small streams besides, that water the parish, containing nothing but trout.

Islands, Rocks, and Caves.—There are no islands, rocks, or caves; but there are remarkable hills of sand, for which, and for the old bar, see the Appendix.

Woods.—Few coast parishes are so well provided with variety of natural and planted trees. The larger allars are in request for building boats and small floops. Birch finds a ready sale for peat-carts, and other implements of husbandry of the cheaper kinds, to supply the neighbouring markets. Ash, elm, beech, plain-tree, and such oaks as can be had, are taken off by water-carriage; and firs, for roofing, sarking, and flooring of houses, are sawn out here, and carried off

off by the like conveyance. Ships, with coals and lime from Newcastle and Sunderland, may shortly carry back cargoes of fir-deal and slabs, for boxing the shafts of mines. It has probably encouraged the plantation of wood in this parish, that the Earl of Moray has a thriving beech at Earlsmill, that measures 14 feet 7 inches; and an ash measuring 14 feet 10 inches in the girth. Experiments were made before the middle of the last century, of planting a few ashes in the vicinity of great houses; but for the first judicious and spirited exertion on a larger scale, in planting and improving an estate, this parish and county has been much indebted to the example of a Lady, of most respectable memory, Mary Sleigh*, the wife of Alexander Brodie of that ilk, Lord Lyon.

Orchards.

* This excellent Lady, who had full liberty to manage matters at home, while her husband attended his duty in several different Parliaments, had acquired liberal and comprehensive views of the benefit and mutual relations of agriculture, manufactures, and commerce. She had seen much of the world before she came here. When she saw the situation of the country, she pitied it; she knew the value of people on an estate, and studied to make them industrious, by contriving work, and giving them wages and bread for their services. The men she employed in levelling, trenching, draining, and raising fences; and trained the women to industry, by establishing a school for spinning, and for dispensing premiums. She raised quantities of flax, encouraged her tenants to cultivate it, and built them a mill, for bruising and scutching it. She enclosed and subdivided an extensive mains substantially; trained up the hedges with uncommon care, and, further, sheltered the enclosures, with belts planted with great variety of trees. Her gardens, orchards, and nurseries, surpassed every thing, but Dunkeld and Blair, benorth Tay. From these, she was fond of providing her neighbours *gratis*, who had a mind to make experiments in planting. She made new roads; straightened old ones, planting them on both sides; put trees in the gardens of every farmstead, and raised sylvan scenes all around her. The profit of this has been already realized, and will endure for many years to come. Planting has now become a favourite object. The Earl of Moray is doing great things, and has improved, upon her method. He intermixes all kinds of trees, with pines for shelter. His plantations about Darnaway are uncommonly thriving. He cuts out the firs whenever they can be dispensed

Orchards.—There are 4 orchards in the parish. The early blow is often blasted by easterly winds *. The later kinds thrive best. The crop of apples and pears are seldom plentiful.

Air.—The air, which is dry and healthy, is not productive of local distempers. There are a number of old people, but no instances of remarkable longevity.

Diseases.—The most frequent disorders are vernal and autumnal fevers, which, here, as well as elsewhere, have changed their nature, and become nervous and lingering. Though they be visibly infectious, an ill-judged sympathy brings many young people into danger, who, while they cannot profit the sick by their personal attendance, do a prejudice to themselves and others, by carrying home the infection. The natural small-pox are less fatal, since they have been less an object of solicitous care. Fresh air and cool regimen have saved the lives of many. Inoculation is not yet general, nor is it much relished, among the lower ranks.

Climate.—The climate is not inferior to that of Lothian. By the shelter of a wall it ripens apricots and peaches in the open air. Stone-fruit of every kind thrives better than in richer soils; apples and pears not so well.

State

dispensed with. The weedings are a good succedaneum for peat-moss, which is scarce, by affording a comfortable firing, from 4 d. to 6 d. per load; and trees will in time generate both soil and moss where there was none, and make way for the plough at length, in places where it might have long laboured in vain.

* They should follow the plan here, adopted in Denmark, of covering the trees, in the spring, during the day, and uncovering them at night; which keeps the blossom back, till the season becomes genial.

State of Property.—Having yet no salt-pans, lime-works, nor mines of coal or metals, the property consists of lands, woods, and salmon fishings. There are stell fishings on the sea, and cobble fishings on the fresh-water of Findern. Some of the fresh-water fishings belong to the parish of Forres. Such fishings as have been repeatedly assessed with stipends, I presume, may belong to this parish, and these are, the two halves of the Long-pool fishings, one belonging to the Dalvey estate, in this parish, and the other to a landholder of Forres parish, who has no property but fishings here. Two-eight parts of the Nether Water, *i. e.* two-eighths belonging to Dalvey, and two-eighths of the same belonging to Birdyards, who has no lands in this parish; (the remaining four-eighths of the Nether Water belonging, as I presume, to the parish of Forres. All the fresh-water fishings, as derived, at some period, from the Abbots of Kinloss, and independent of the adjacent lands, have right to draw nets indifferently on either side. The stell fishings specially mentioned in the decreets of the ministers of Dyke, are, Ethstell, Elven stell, the Sheriff's stell, and the Easter and Wester stells of Culbin.

Number of Proprietors, Resident and Non-resident.—The number of proprietors, in the last century, were at least 12 or upwards. For 50 years back, the greater part of the properties have been rather fluctuating. The proprietors, in 1793, are but five; four landholders, whereof two have fishings in the parish, two have no fishings in it, and one has fishings without lands.

The resident proprietors are, James Brodie, Esq; of Brodie, and Hugh Grant, Esq; of Moy. The Earl of Moray retains a family of servants at Darnaway, where he occupies the Mains, and keeps his castle in repair, for the sake of a short residence when his occasions call him to the north.

He

He keeps a factor here for his northern properties, who resides at Earlsmill. The proprietor of Dalvey is resident in London.

Mode of Cultivation.—The mode of cultivation is not yet, in the general practice, reduced to established rules, or a regular succession of crops; and all attempts of binding down the mode of procedure upon tenants, by articles, are either spurned at, or prove abortive. The general prepossession is in favour of whatever mode of cultivation gives the quickest returns, with least expence and trouble. Their practice (as it ought to be) is more the result of observation and experience, than of theory * and system; yet it is gradually, though slowly, changing for the better. Nobody doubts any longer of the profit of sown grasses, with, or even without, enclosing. Small patches of grass are sown, and enclosed with flakes or paling by the poorer sort; and clover and rye-grass, to great-

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* Such proprietors as are bent on agricultural improvement, are too apt to complain of the slow progress of new methods among their farmers, which they erroneously impute to stupidity or obstinacy; but, considering how many richer people have suffered deeply, by new experiments and speculations in husbandry, it is a lucky circumstance for landlords that tenants are not so venturesome as proprietors in these particulars. With a heavy rent hanging over them, and their living and credit at stake, it behoves them not only to see before they believe, but to be somewhat easy before they hazard upon schemes of enclosing, fallowing, and liming; and it is not to be expected, that they should hastily lose sight of those cautious habits, which have enabled them to keep credit from the beginning. Perhaps the speediest and most effectual way, of introducing useful alterations in their method and management, would be, for proprietors to make farmers of the most judicious and thorough bred of their farm-servants. When these could be observed to profit by the new methods they had been bred and accustomed to, hundreds would copy from a thriving farmer, who has no resources but his plough and better management, for one that will venture to imitate a monied landlord; whose crops his tenants may admire, while they remain doubtful and suspicious how far the profit will repay the expence.

er extent, are sown in the open fields, which is bringing winter herding more into use ; and the quantity of ley-grass is much increased.

After 3 years rest, they have 2 good crops of oats before barley, with the benefit of better summer feeding for their cattle, an increase of milk, and enlargement of the breed, in consequence of resting the ground. Potatoes were little known before the year 1745, and, when tried, yielded no crops but in lazy beds, or new ground that sent up no weeds. It was long before they learned to keep them properly clean. Now, nobody misses plentiful crops ; and they are the best improvement in the cultivation of our corn fields, where, by some, they are trenched down, with dung, by the spade, but many have discovered, at length, that, with clean keeping, the best crops are after the plough. The farmers give ground to every cottager for his dung and culture, which has greatly lessened the consumption of grain, and is the chief subsistence of the labouring poor. The potatoe crop is succeeded by wheat or barley, with sown grass ; and where grass is not sown in potatoe-ground, they have 2 crops of oats after the wheat or barley ; then they take barley, pease, and 2 crops of oats again. Flax is commonly sown after barley ; and wheat sometimes after sown grass, when broke up.

The tillage is much better since the introduction and general use of English ploughs. There is one indisputable fact, which I can only ascribe to the potatoe culture, and increase of grass and resting, that the barley crops are not nearly so much choked as formerly by the gool or yellow gowan, which is almost banished here, in comparison of former times. But, with our sown grasses, we have got a plentiful importation of ragweed.

Liming, summer-fallow, or drill-husbandry, whether of
turnips

turnips or potatoes, have got no footing yet but among gentlemen-farmers.

Implements of Husbandry.—All the implements of ordinary husbandry, are now made more substantial and commodious than formerly. Box-carts are coming in use for kellochs, and single draughts are preferred to double, which ill suit the strength of our small horses.

Manures.—There are no manures in common use but compost dunghills, in which they intermix earth, clay, or water-sand from the burns, with stable-dung and ashes: They now make very little use of moorish earth.

Seedtime.—Wheat and rye would shoot before winter, if sown as early in warm as in cold or stiff soils, and would not be easily kept from cattle if they were not sown late; they are laid down from Martinmas to the end of December. Oats and pease from 12th March to 12th April. Oats are short, and pease a poor cover, when early sown here, being too forward to have the full benefit of the July rains. Barley is sown from 10th May to 10th June. Of late, it has been sown in February and March, in dry seasons, and grounds in high order, which gives the weightiest grain; but, in other cases, the latest is the thickest and most plentiful crop. Flax is sown in April,—and pulled; and potatoes are mostly planted in that month.

Harvest.—Harvest commonly runs from 20th August to 12th October, new stile.—A state of the crop and live-stock, of 1793, is subjoined here, being the amount of particulars noted down at every house, on the report of the people, comprehending the mains of proprietors, and not omitting the flax and potatoes of trades-people and day-labourers; by which

which it appears, that, omitting fractions on the sums total of every kind, the sowing of 1793 was, of rye, oats, and barley, *in cumulo*, the oats at 5 firlots, 1511 bolls.

Wheat *,	-	-	15	
Pease and beans,	-	-	46	
			1572	1572
Average return at $3\frac{1}{2}$ or 4,			3.5	
			7860	
			4716	

Produce.—Produce reckoned from 5502.0 to 6288 bolls.

Potatoes planted in 1793, 228 bolls, at 8 returns, 1824.

Lintseed, 1893 Scots pints, sowed about 12 acres.

Turnips, - - - 60

Fallow, - - - 38

Sown grafs under hay and pasture, 543 543

Infield pasture unfown, or ley-grafs, - - 340 be-
side out-pasture.

Live Stock.—The live stock of all ages in 1793 stood thus :

Sheep, including lambs, and generally of small size, 1533

Black-cattle, including calves, - 1047

Horses of all kinds, including foals, few of the com-

mon sort reaching 13 hands, - 384

Swine omitted, but may be reckoned at, - 40

Of the value of live stock I am no competent judge.

Valued

* The sowing of wheat, in 1793, was a mere trifle, because of low prices and stock on hand, and because barley had been rising for several years. Wheat is sown here according to the appearance of demand. In the year 1795, every one sowed wheat largely.

Valued Rent.—Valued rent by the county books, L. 5674, 6 s. 6 d. Scots.

Real Rent.—Real rent in victual, money, fishings, mills, customs, and wood, L. 2900 Sterling *.

Average of Rents.—The average of rents cannot be stated under 19 s. *per* Scots acre, for corn fields.

Prices of Grain.—The average of grain, for several years prior to 1793. Wheat, 20 s.; oat-meal, weighing 9 stone Dutch,

* It is but a small proportion of the present rents that are paid in victual. The bolls have been mostly converted into money-rents, and these money-rents, at different times, augmented. But I have seen a computation of the land-rents and fishings, made by the last minister, about 40 years ago, where the victual-rents are valued at L. 5 Scots, equal 8 s. 4 d.; and the salted salmon at L. 32 Scots, equal L. 2 : 13 : 4 Sterling *per* barrel, of 4 cwt. By this calculation, including but very little money-rent, the amount of the rents of the parish are computed at L. 14,866 : 13 : 4 Scots money, or L. 1238 : 17 : 9 $\frac{4}{12}$ Sterling. Since that time, till now, the rents, computed on a money scale, appear to be more than doubled. But, computed on the scale of produce, their increase appears far less considerable, in regard the number of bolls and fishes then paid, would, according to their present value, fetch the double of what they were then worth. And, in general, it is evident, that in corn parishes along the coasts, where every soil fit for corn was brought under culture many centuries ago, the rents paid in kind, whether of corn or fish, being a proportion of the produce, must have nearly reached their *ultimatum* at a very early period, so as to admit of little rise, except it were on the money scale. In such maritime parishes whose payments were made in produce, the rents would seem to have been heavier about 1633, than at any period since that time. When the valuation of tithes was then introduced, the substitution of one-fifth of the rent, as an equivalent for one-tenth of the produce, seems to warrant a supposition or inference, that the proprietors (whom the Legislature wished rather to ease than to injure) had, in those days, to the amount of value of half the produce on account of rents.

Dutch, 16 s.; pease and rye always the same price with oatmeal, 16 s.; oats, at 5 firlots *per* boll, 16 s.; barley, 18 s. *.

Prices of other Provisions in 1793.—Potatoes *per* boll, of 32 stone Dutch, 6 s. 8 d.; beef from 2 d. to 4 d.; mutton 3 d.; shot lamb 3 d.; veal from 3 d. to 4 d.; pork 3 d. all Dutch weight; turkies 4 s. 6 d.; geese 2 s. 6 d.; ducks 9 d.; hens 8 d.; eggs 2 d. *per* dozen; butter 12 s.; and cheese 4 s. *per* stone, of 22 lbs. Dutch; salmon from 4 d. *per* Dutch lb. gross weight, to 2½ d. at different seasons; haddocks from 1 s. 4 d. to 1 s. 6 d. *per* dozen; cod from 8 d. to 1 s. 2 d. apiece; small skate from 6 d. to 8 d.; flounders from 2½ d. to 4 d. *per* dozen, according to size; herrings, from Nairn, from 1 d. to 3 d. *per* dozen; crabs 2 d.; and lobsters from Nairn 4 d. apiece.

Wages.—The wages of labouring servants, in the house, was, 50 years ago, at 16 s. 8 d. the man, and 7 s. 8 d. the woman, half-yearly, with a pair of brogues, or apron, value 1 s.: now, they are from L. 3 to L. 4 for men, and from 20 s. to 25 s. for women, half-yearly. Men-servants not domestic, get a free-house or lodging, and 52 stone of meal for aliment. The number of married servants has much increased of late, which is very convenient for rearing up servants in succession.

Wages of livery-servants from L. 6 to L. 12; house-maids from 25 s. to 30 s.

Day-

* By a contract of wadset in 1702, wherein the session of Dyke were creditors for a share, 42 bolls of farm bear are pledged, redeemable in 5 years, for the use of 5000 merks Scots, or L. 277 : 15 : 6 $\frac{8}{12}$ Sterling; by which contract, the price of barley must have been 6 s. 8 d. Sterling *per* boll.

Day-labour.—Summer and harvest wages for men 1 s. ; for women 9 d. Winter wages for trenching, ditching, or planting, 8 d. to 9 d. ; all without victuals. Hay-cutting 2 s. 6 d. *per* acre. Journeymen masons from 1 s. 3 d. to 1 s. 6 d. Carpenters 1 s. to 1 s. 3 d.

Services.—Services of tenants are very generally abolished.

Manufactures.—Of manufactures there is nothing to say, but that the harn, tweeling, coarse linen, and plaiden, made by individuals, are readily bought up at fairs by dealers, for high prices, and carried away. The quantities of each kind not known.

Articles of Commerce.—The chief articles of commerce are, grain, black-cattle, iced and barrelled salmon, linen-yarn of the coarser kinds, and wood.

Grain.—The surplus of grain for export is very considerable ; of wheat sometimes, of oats and barley always. Oats are sold at 5 firlots *per* boll, wanting only (according to Bald's Tables) 1 lippy and .5206 of an English quarter. Barley or farm bear, at 4 firlots, weighs from 17 to 19 stone Dutch, wanting 1 firloft 1 lippy and .579 of a lippy, of an English quarter. A regulation for selling all grain by weight would do justice to good farmers, make bad farmers better, and render purchasers by commission more secure. It would be convenient, at the same time, to regulate the weight of hay, wool, butter, and cheese, and bring the different counties to one standard, that buyers and sellers might have nothing to differ about, or settle, but the price.

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Cattle.

Cattle.—Runts, and yell or dry cows, are the chief articles in the cattle trade: we spare some of every kind, and stots sell dearest; yet they ought rather to be wrought out. It would be more profitable to carry on the farm-work altogether with oxen, which are fit for every work except riding, are much more easily maintained, are far less liable to sudden diseases, and, in the end, fetch a good price for beef: when old, horses must be given to the dogs. Some have estimated the difference of working a farm with horses, and with oxen, to amount, all things considered, to the value of the rent: the saving upon oats is great.

Fishings of Salmon.—Fresh salmon are sometimes sent to London in ice; but are mostly kitted at Findern. The trade has been much monopolized by an Aberdeen company, who took leases of all the fishings they could get throughout the north, and bought up the fish caught by other lessees. The boil-house prices, allowed by that company, were, in the first of the season to the 1st of May, 4 d. *per lb.* gross weight; from 1st May to end of May, 3 d.; thence to the end of June $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. and while they continue to kit. Three fishes of 10 lib. suffice for one kit; this, at the early price, comes to 10 s. The kit, boiling, and curing, with freight, and other costs, bring up the charges to 13 s. *per kit*; which fetches, at London, from 18 s. to 31 s. 6 d. The profit, therefore, on kitting fish, bought at the above prices, runs from 94 to 135 *per cent.* nearly.

In times of scarcity, they kit as long as it is allowable to fish. But, generally, after the 1st of June, the raw fish are cured in barrels, with one-half boll of foreign salt to each barrel. From 30 to 40 well sized fish make a barrel, of 4 cwt. The salt and barrel cost from 12 s. to 13 s. The freight is 3 s. to London, and 4 s. 6 d. to Holland. The barrel,

rel, of 4 cwt. formerly sold for L. 4, and sometimes for L. 5, now it fetches only 50 s.

Cod.—Cod are sometimes caught in great abundance, by Nairn and Findern boats, in the beginning of winter, when the weather cannot serve for drying them. An adventurer, from this parish, cured a quantity in barrels, like salted salmon, carried them to London, and made no loss by the adventure, though they sold heavily, and must have been but unpleasant food. But had these cod been parboiled, and cured with vinegar at the boil-house, like ketled salmon, it is believed, such soufed fish would have excelled the salted, as much as the kitted salmon exceeds the salted, in quality and price.

Seals.—There are also sea-calves or seals on the coast of this parish, whereof one man has killed 130 in a year, worth 4 s. apiece, for their oil and skin. The matter of seal-fishing is the more deserving of attention, because, beside the intrinsic value of seals, they lie in wait for salmon, and frighten them away from a shallow coast.

Yarn.—The yarn-trade has fallen off greatly since the use of cottons hath become almost universal. There are yet 3 yarn factors in the parish, who buy up yarn spun from home flax, and give out foreign flax to be spun, from $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. to $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hank. They were in use to expend about L. 500 a-year for the spinning and purchase of yarn; now they do not exceed L. 300 in whole. From the number of weavers in the parish, I suppose the high prices for coarse cloth makes the spinners manufacture their own lint for the fairs. From 20 cuts to $2\frac{1}{2}$ hanks is the common grist of spinning here.

Wood.—The wood market has already begun briskly, and will shortly be great. One heritor draws a hundred a-year, for 7 years, for the cutting of one fir park, which will be planted again when it is cleared. He has another ready for felling down, and several rising in succession. So that moderation in cutting, and diligence in planting again what is cleared, will bring the business to a very considerable standing rent.

Villages, Inns, and Still.—There are villages at Broom of Moy, Kintefak, and Dyke; at which last there is an inn, near the post road, and another inn at the Ferry Boat, on the east side of the river; and no other inns or alehouses. One licensed still, of 38 gallons, has supplied this parish; I believe one of 30 might suffice.

Roads, and Statute Labour.—The roads being naturally good, there are no turnpikes, nor any need or wish for them. The statute labour is exacted, which keeps the roads in tolerable repair. Commutation was attempted, but it raised discontent, and was dropped.

Bridges.—Three stout wooden bridges, floored acrosses, railed, and painted, have been built, at Moy, Dalvey, and Barley-mill, near the fords of the Beg-Bourne, at the cost of L. 114, 7 s. Sterling, out of $5\frac{1}{2}$ years of the stipends accruing at the last vacancy.

They admit no carriages, nor even the post cart; but the horse and mail can pass. Three small stone bridges were also built on the public road, out of the same fund, for L. 30, 14 s.

State of the Church.—A new and commodious church, of 66 by 33 feet, inside, was built in 1781, at the expence of the heritors, for the sum of L. 525, beside the carriages performed

formed by the parish. It is neatly plastered and ceiled, well lighted, paved in the areas, and regularly seated. It has a geometrical stair in each end, with galleries quite round; and none are allowed to bury in it. The plan has been adopted by other parishes.

Manse.—The manse and offices were completely rebuilt and slated in 1790, and garden-walls built, of stone and lime, for L. 321 : 18 : 3, out of the above mentioned vacant stipends. L. 101 : 8 : 7 of these stipends went to the payment of interim assistants, during the vacancy; and the remnant, to other necessary purposes within the parish.—On the 19th January 1795, a still fire broke out, near mid-day, with inextinguishable vehemence, in a room that had been deafened with straw and shavings of wood, instead of clay, whereby the manse, but not the offices, was rapidly consumed. The walls remained entire, and the heritors completely repaired the dwelling-house, for L. 170 . 18 : 3, in 1795-6.

Stipend, Glebes, and Patronage.—The living, which had not been augmented since 1650, was made better in June 1795, by an addition of 16 bolls more barley, and about L. 15 more money. It stands now at 106 bolls 1 firiot barley, 7 bolls 2 firlots oat-meal, at 9 stones, with L. 40 : 15 : 2 Sterling of money-stipend, and L. 5 more for communion-elements. There is a glebe of 6 acres at Dyke, and a small one in the other parish, for which the proprietor of Moy pays a rent of 6 bolls of barley. The minister has L. 1, 13 s. 4 d. for grass-money. The living, with its accommodations, according to present prices, may be reckoned at L. 150.

The patronage has been lately declared a vice-right, between the Crown and the heritor of Easter Moy, Hugh Grant, Esquire.

The

The incumbents, since the annexation, in 1618, have been, Mr William Dunbar, prebendary of Moy before 1618, and afterwards minister of the united parishes, till 1624; Mr William Falconer senior, from 1625 to 1674; Mr William Falconer junior, from 1674 to 1689; Mr Alexander Forbes, from 1689 to 1708; Mr James Chalmers, from 1709 to 1726; Mr Robert Dunbar, from 1727 to 1782; and, Mr John Dunbar, translated from Knockando, in 1788, a widower, with three sons, and one daughter.

Poor.—Assessments for the maintenance of the poor have never been attempted here. They are believed, and not without reason, to encourage idleness and inconsiderate expences. The charity of the parishoners would afford sufficient aid to the parish poor, if it were not so much forestalled by vagrant and strolling beggars, recommended, out of their own parishes, to the public at large, by canting certificates, deserving of no regard.

The average number of enrolled poor, for the 7 years from 1789 to 1795, inclusive of both years, is 61. Among these, the church-session dispenses all the cash in hand by half-yearly distributions; the one in February; the other in August; which last includes the meal of 3 bolls of bear: L. 5, destined for clothing 12 children, is divided each November.

Funds.—The parochial funds, from which these distributions are made, are, the Sabbath collections, with small fines for illicit amours, and the dues of a velvet pall; all which are booked, as they come in, both in the treasurer's accounts, and in those kept for a check by the session-clerk. The average of these three articles, for the seven years
aforesaid,

aforesaid, appears, by the cash-book, to have been *per annum*,
 - - - L. 25 7 8 Sterling.

Add the annualrents of L. 66 : 13 : 4,
 which has accrued, either from legacies or savings of former times,
 and lies at interest, for bettering the distributions,
 - - - 3 6 8

Add 40½ stone or more, barley-meal, from 3 bolls barley, paid out of St Ninian's Croft, by a mortgage of Mr William Falconer senior, one of the former ministers, value,
 - - - 2 14 0

Add the interest of L. 100, destined by Henry Vass, for yearly clothing to 12 fatherless or destitute children, which is dispensed each November,
 - - - 5 0 0

The average of the yearly amount of the funds is,
 - - - L. 36 8 4

Deduce 20 s. to the precentor, and 15 s. to the officer, yearly, as their fees,
 - - - 1 15 0

Remains the yearly average of distributions, for the above 7 years, L. 34 13 4

This 7 years average of receipts and expenditures for the poor, which includes occasional supplies in times of sickness, is a small pittance among such a number. But, in severe seasons, or times of scarcity, the resident proprietors sometimes step forward, and send meal, to be divided among the labouring poor, which is not entered in the session accounts. And there is a lodge of free masons in the parish, who have

have a laudable sympathy for the poor, and give supply to several from their own funds.

The collections, which are far from liberal, are but a small proportion of the charity given by house-holders. But, every one has a right to dispense his own charity to his own mind.

The session has a right of recommending patients from this parish, to be received *gratis* in the Infirmaries of Edinburgh and Aberdeen, in consequence of a bequest, by the above mentioned Henry Vass, made upon that condition, to each of these charitable institutions. Every heritor has a right to a vote in the management of the poor's funds; and the books are open at all times for inspection of all concerned. The accounts of receipts and expenditures, kept by the clerk and treasurer, are every year revised and compared, and being found to agree, the treasurer is formally acquitted of his intromissions, by a minute entered into the book of discipline, and takes charge again, *de novo*.

On these occasions, an edict is served 10 free days before, notifying the meeting for inspecting and passing the treasurer's accounts, and warning heritors and all concerned to attend.

Schools and Scholars.—There is another parochial fund, destined for two schools in the village of Dyke; the one for boys; the other for girls. It consists of the interest of 3500 merks, $= L. 194 : 8 : 10\frac{4}{11} \div 20 = L. 9 : 14 : 5\frac{8}{11}$ Sterling; the interest of 1000 merks, payable to the parochial or grammar schoolmaster, $= L. 2 : 15 : 6\frac{8}{11}$; and the interest of 2500 merks to the mistress of the woman-school, $= L. 6 : 18 : 10\frac{8}{11}$.

The grammar schoolmaster has also L. 1 out of the collections, and 16 bolls bear, one-half paid by the heritors,

tors, and the other half by the parishoners. He teaches English and writing for 1 s. 6 d. *per* quarter; arithmetic for 1 s. 8 d. *per* ditto; Latin for 2 s. 6 d. *per* ditto; mensuration and land-surveying for 4 s. 6 d. *per* ditto; geometry for 7 s. 6 d. *per* ditto; and book-keeping for 10 s. 6 d. and 15 s. He receives 1 s. 6 d. for proclamation of bans; 6 d. for recording baptisms; and 4 d. for extending certificates: and has 40 scholars at an average. The salary and emoluments amount to L. 33, besides his lodging, in the school-house, which was rebuilt and slated in 1785, with a floored school-room, and 2 small chambers, for the master's accommodation.

The woman's school is a joint foundation, in the year 1702, resting on a bequest from John Anderson, writer in Edinburgh; and a further destination by James Brodie of that Ilk, the trustee, who added 500 merks to Anderson's donation of 2000 merks, gave off ground, and built thereon a slated house of 2 floors, with garrets, for the accommodation of the mistress and scholars; and gave also a garden at his own expence. His heirs, though conjoined with the heritors and session, are managers *sine quibus non*. The salary, at the beginning, in 1702, was 21 bolls bear, mortgaged for a capital of L. 138 : 17 : 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ Sterling, or L. 2500 merks, belonging to this school. At the redemption of the mortgage or wadset, the salary was reduced to L. 6 : 18 : 10 $\frac{6}{12}$ Sterling, the legal interest of the capital. The school-house, though still in use, is ruinous, and in urgent need of immediate repair *.

Averages

* There was once a great resort from Caithness, Sutherland, Ross, &c. to this boarding-school, where young gentlewomen were taught reading, knitting stockings, marking, plain and coloured seam, and music, by the mistress; and writing and arithmetic by the parochial schoolmaster. Many daughters of men of property were educated here, without resorting for accomplishments any where else.

Averages for ascertaining the ancient Population.—Finding no lists of the ancient or modern population, prior to 1788, nor any list of deaths or burials, I subjoin, from the registers of births and marriages, what follows :

Years.	Marriages.	Births.	Males.	Females.
1671	17	69	42	27
—72	16	64	39	25
—73	14	59	25	34
—74	10	70	41	29
—75	18	81	50	31
—76	8	61	30	31
—77	10	69	58	41
	— Average.	— Average.	— Average.	— Average.
	7)93(13.286	7)503(71.857	7)285(40.714	7)218(31.143
1694	17	71	40	28
—95	24	59	31	42
—96	15	94	52	31
—97	9	69	40	29
—98	14	97	52	45
—99	15	39	26	23
1700	9	36	22	14
	—	—	—	—
	7)103(14.714	7)465(66.13	7)253(36.14	7)212(30.285
1765	11	43	21	22
—66	12	41	25	16
—67	8	35	22	13
—68	7	39	20	19
—69	11	40	22	18
—70	17	36	18	18
—71	10	41	22	19
	—	—	—	—
	7)76(10.857	7)275(39.286	7)150(21.43	7)125(17.857
1787	10	21	8	13
—88	9	30	10	20
—89	6	31	18	13
—90	6	21	12	9
—91	10	41	21	20
—92	16	40	21	19
—93	12	34	15	19
	—	—	—	—
	7)69(9.857	7)218(31.143	7)105(15.	7)113(16.143
				<i>Present</i>

Present Population, and other Statistical Particulars.—At a parochial visitation and enrollment, in 1788, the population was found to be 1564 souls: At another enrollment, in 1793, (when the numbers had become 35 less), the various informations then obtained, and committed to writing, afford materials for the Tables of Population and other Statistical particulars that follow :

Population Table for 1793.

Souls in 1793,	-	-	1529
Families,	-	-	345
Average number in <i>per</i> family,	$\frac{1529}{345}$	=	4.432
Males,	-	-	728
Females,	-	-	801
		}	= 1529
Aged below 10,	-	-	375
From 10 to 20,	-	-	360
— 20 to 50,	-	-	537
— 50 to 70,	-	-	206
— 70 to 100,	-	-	51
None exceeding 83,	-	-	0
Uninhabited houses,	-	-	0
Houses inhabited by 1,	39		39
— 2,	63		126
— 3,	56		168
— 4,	43		172
— 5,	49		245
— 6,	27		162
— 7,	22		154
— 8,	19		152
— 9,	5		45
— 10,	8		80
Carried forward	331		1343
Vol. XX.	E e		Brought

Brought forward	331	1343
Houses inhabited by 11,	5	55
12,	3	36
13,	1	13
14,	1	14
15,	2	30
17,	1	17
21,	1	21
Families	345	1529 Souls.

Inhabitants variously classed.

Married persons,	-	459
Widowers,	-	26
Widows,	-	53
Unmarried men, from 50 to 70,	-	5
Unmarried women, from 20 to 50,	-	141
Male-servants in whole,	-	122
Ditto married,	-	27
Female-servants in whole,	-	111
Ditto married,	-	2
Large farmers, as from L. 50 to L. 100 and upwards,	-	12
Lesser farmers, under L. 50,	-	75
Pendicles in the hands of tradesmen or crofters having ploughs,	-	28
Ploughs in whole,	-	115
Resident proprietors of lands,	-	2
Non-resident ditto,	-	3
Non-resident ditto of fishings,	-	1
Factors,	-	2
Established clergy,	-	1
Other clergy,	-	0
Dissenters, all but 2 of the Secession,	-	39
		Parochial

Parochial schoolmaster,	-	-	1
Ditto schoolmistress,	-	-	1
Other private teachers,	-	-	9
Scholars of all kinds,	-	-	179
Students in divinity,	-	-	2
Private tutors,	-	-	1
College students,	-	-	1
Half-pay lieutenant,	-	-	1
Ditto navy surgeon,	-	-	1
Ditto master and commander,	-	-	1
Pensioners of artillery,	-	-	1
Out-pensioners of Chelsea College,	-	-	4
Millers,	-	-	6
Ferry-men, with 2 boats, on Findern,	-	-	1
Farriers and blacksmiths in whole, (apprentices included),	-	-	7
Masons, (apprentices included),	-	-	27
Slaters,	-	-	2
Plasterers,	-	-	1
Carpenters for country work,	-	-	23
Weavers,	-	-	31
Shoemakers,	-	-	12
Tailors,	-	-	16
Mantua-makers,	-	-	2
Cartwrights,	-	-	18
Turners,	-	-	2
Coopers,	-	-	2
Midwives,	-	-	3
Tinkers,	-	-	1
Country merchants who are yarn factors,	-	-	3
Salmon fishers,	-	-	28
Day-labourers,	-	-	42
Gardeners, (2 paying rent),	-	-	5

Other

Other Matters

Flour-mills,	-	2
Meal-mills,	-	5
Barley-mill,	-	1
Saw-mill,	-	1
Wind-mill, for pumping a quarry,	-	1
Pigeon-houses,	-	5
Ale-houses,	-	2
A still of 38-gallons,	-	1
A hot-house for fruit,	-	1
Oxen wains,	-	15
Double draughts,	-	16
Peat-carts,	-	291
Coach,	-	1
Chaise,	-	1
Servants paying tax,	-	10
Saddle and carriage horses,	-	13

Causes of the Decline of Population.—The population of this parish, as far as can be guessed by multiplying the average of births by $31\frac{1}{3}$, would seem, from the above Tables, to have been, in 1677, as high as 2200. From that period there are three visible causes of its subsequent decline.

1. One unavoidable cause, was the overwhelming of the populous barony of Culbin *, by a violent drifting of sand from the Maviston hills; and, excepting a small remnant farthest

* The sand had been making great encroachments before it overwhelmed the mains and garden of Culbin. But that event, which completed the business, must have happened considerably earlier than the date assigned in Shaw's History of the Province; because it is specially mentioned in the Act of Parliament, against pulling of bent, passed in 1695, intitled, for Preservation of Lands adjacent to Sand-hills, and is mentioned as one of the reasons for passing that act, K. Wil. III. 1 Par. 5 Sess. Act xxx.

farthest from the coast, the depopulation of that barony was completed before the close of the last century.

2. Another cause, affecting all the other estates in the parish, is the change that has taken place since the rebellion, 1745, in the size and number of farms. Formerly they were very small and numerous, running from 4 to 16 bolls of rent; now they are larger, and not half so numerous as they were. A multitude of small farms is very favourable to population; yet the enlargement of farms, to a certain degree, was needful in this parish, where the grounds so much needed rest, and where milk, butter, and butcher-meat were so scarce; and, had there been manufactures sufficient to employ the hands superseded from tillage, the enlargement of farms might have been favourable to agriculture, without diminishing the population. But this not being the case,

3. The neglect of manufactures may be stated as a third cause, and the greatest of any, affecting the population of this parish. The present possessors, finding that there are not so many rooms as formerly for farmers, breed their children to handicrafts; and these, not finding employment at home, push their way to Edinburgh, Glasgow, Paisley, or London, from whence they seldom find their way back to settle here. This cause affects most of the northern districts, where manufactures do not meet with the attention and encouragement that they deserve. This is what occasions yearly emigrations, during the seasons of summer and harvest work, to places where there is more employment and higher wages; and these short excursions frequently end in a removal to manufacturing towns at the last.

Remedies.—The remedies are pointed out by the causes of emigration, or decrease of people.

1. To

1. To divide the larger farms when the leases have run, and bring them into proper compass. Evils are generally corrected by their effects; and wise proprietors begin to discover, that small farmers make better payments than the great, especially when they pay in produce. It is beyond doubt, that more corn was raised when farms were smaller than at the present time.

2. The introduction and patronage of manufactures would not only prevent further depopulation, but would give new life and spirit to agriculture, bring an increase of people, by promoting and providing for marriage, and form a solid and satisfactory basis for increasing rents. If manufactures were first established, rents would quickly rise of course, and the enlargement of farms would occasion no distress. But it is a short-sighted policy, that aims at an increase of rent, by a decrease of people, whose labours can at once be made profitable to landlords, and comfortable to themselves. A more timely attention to fisheries and manufactures, and particularly to the manufacturing of wool, in the Highlands of Scotland, might have prevented the emigrations to America, and even increased the sources of public prosperity and national defence. It is a speculation equally mean and hazardous, to dispossess brave and attached Highlanders, to make way for a population of sheep. The maxim, that it is lawful for a man to do what he will with his own, has already misled too many; it is so far from being universally true, that it has its limitations in every kind of property. *Quia interest reipublicæ ne quis re sua malè utatur*: He who uses his own to the detriment of the public, incurs just blame and obnoxiousness. One's right to dispose of his own money, does not extend to a right of melting down the current coin; and more especially, in all feudal tenures, there are reserved rights of the Sovereign, as head of the community, whereby proprietors stand

stand amenable for such abuse of property as is prejudicial to the common-weal. For though statute law never has, and probably never will, intermeddle with a subject so delicate, complicated, and difficult, as fixing limitations on the use of property, it ought to be more generally understood than it would seem to be, that malversations and abuses of power, in the use of property, issuing in public detriment and alarming depopulation, have already been brought under the lath of the common law, at the instance of the Crown, even in South Britain. A lawyer of the last century, Mr Robert Powel, of Wells, published a treatise, in 1636, intitled, *Depopulation Arraigned*, where, at page 84, he narrates a trial and sentence, at Michaelmas term, decimo Caroli, *anno* 1635. The judgment against this depopulator, for converting so much arable into pasture, was accompanied with heavy penalties, and with circumstances of humiliating disgrace. Such as wish to be more fully informed, may have recourse to the records of the times, not omitting those of the Privy Council of England.

Quarries.—There are 2 free stone quarries in this parish, both of the harder kind. And there is a limestone rock on the west side of the river, at the Boat-pool, but, for want of fuel, it is more eligible to purchase lime, than to burn it here.

Fuel and Coals.—Peats are very scarce, dear, and of little strength. The parish would have been in uncommon distress for want of fuel, long since, had it not obtained a seasonable supply from the weedings of fir plantations, and an easement of the duty upon coals, which begin to be used by the lower ranks, because they afford light to spin. Newcastle coal are bought from 1 s. 10 d. to 2 s. *per* barrel.

Antiquities.

Antiquities.—At Darnaway, the seat of the Earls of Moray, of the Randolph, Dunbar, Douglas, and Stewart race, stands an old castle, nobly elevated, with great range and variety of prospect, which has been built at different periods, adjoining to a princely hall, that had been erected by Thomas Randolph, Regent of Scotland, during the minority of King David Bruce, for the reception of his numerous vassals. This hall is by much the oldest and most remarkable part of buildings, which are now altogether a venerable pile. After all the changes it has undergone, it is still a pleasing monument of ancient hospitality and magnificence. The length is 89 feet, and breadth 35. It has yet from 18 to 20 feet of side wall, though it wants about 12 of its original height, by reason of a range of vaults constructed on its ground-floor, for cellars, with a stone pavement above them. It has a battery in the outer end, and above that a music gallery, from side to side. There was a large chimney in the opposite end, and another spacious fire-place in one of its sides.

The roof is supported by diagonal couples and rafters of massy oak, more superb than any modern ceiling, and resembles that of the Parliament House of Edinburgh, and Guildhall of London. Earl Randolph's hospitable board, of thick oaken plank, curiously bordered and indented, standing on 6 pillars, draws out at one end to double length. His oaken chair, on which are coarsely carved the bearings of his office and arms, weighs about 60 lbs. avoirdupois, and differs little from the coronation chair in Westminster Abbey.

Coins.—In digging the foundation of the new church, behind the old one, a day-labourer found a deposit, as he was working alone, before the arrival of his companions, and, covering it up, contrived to employ himself and the others,

till night, in digging the foundations in a different quarter. Before morning, he had secured the contents of an earthen pot, of old coins, which, at convenience, were sold as bullion, for about L. 46. They were all of one size, broader than a fixpence, and very thin; but the silver was fine and unfulled. Such as had been unavoidably scattered, were found, by the test of Anderson's Numismata, to be groat pieces; with a rude impression of a head, hand, and sceptre, upon each. They had been struck, at many different places, both in Scotland and England, as appeared by the one side; on the other side, they bore the impression and name of one or other of these contemporary princes, Henry II. of England, or King William of Scotland. Some, that had been struck at Striveling, had the words RE VILLAM; *Re* being the Gaelic word for King. I saw some of both kinds.

Records.—The oldest parish record now extant, goes back as far as 1610. It is very ill to read. In some periods, the records seem very exactly kept; in others, they are very much deranged and confused. No record of burials has ever been regularly kept; as there are two burial grounds, and two grave-diggers, it is the more difficult to be exact. At present, there are three records carried on at once. A register of baptisms and marriages; a cash-book; and a book of discipline, for recording the proceedings of the church session. This has frequent references to the cash-book, and the cash-book to it. All of these new records commenced in 1788.

Miscellaneous Observations.—In the last century, James Brodie of that Ilk, and his brother-in-law, Sir Robert Dunbar of Grangehill, had each of them 9 marriageable daughters, who were cousin-germans; and 8 out of each family were married.—A rape, committed by a soldier, about 50 years

ago, was punished by his public execution.—A murder was committed, in 1780, on a strolling packman; the perpetrator never was discovered.

Character of the People.—The people are, very generally, decent, quiet, and well affected to the religion and government under which they live. They are neither addicted to a seafaring or military life; yet the frequency of recruiting parties reconciles them, when that business is accompanied with music, mirth, and drink. They can live poorly, to dress neatly; but few think of laying any thing up. On public occasions, there are not a few who will spend, what they can ill afford, in vying to be neighbour-like, with others who are either more rich, or more inconsiderate than themselves. In general, they are better fed and clothed, and have greater variety of convenient furniture, than they had 40 years ago. But the use of tea makes rather an alarming progress among many, who need a better nourishment, at less expence.

Means of bettering their Condition.—The best means to meliorate their situation, would be manufactures, for which this parish, with such a soil and climate, and so near the port of Findhorn, is no unpromising situation. Having plenty of flat grounds, well watered, and being very fit for the cultivation of flax, it seems by nature best adapted for the linen manufacture, in all its branches, of flax-dressing, spinning, weaving, bleaching, and thread-making.

Cotton manufacture is now going forward at Skibo and Spinningdale, where L. 4000 a-year is now circulated, in Sutherland, for which branch this parish would be no less commodious.

Of

Of woollen manufacture, knitted stockings seems the best, as requiring most manual labour, and affording the best recompense for it.

A stone bridge over the Findern, and another over the Big-bourne, on the post-road, would be of great advantage to this parish, for an open communication to all the villages and towns west of the river, with Forrés and Elgin. For want of this, the daily posts are often long detained, lives are frequently endangered, and sometimes lost. In 1781, 11 were lost by the oversetting of the ferry-boat on the day of a Forres market. On such occasions, there is no preventing the people from overloading the boat.

The servitude of thirlage, remains yet a dead weight upon agriculture. It retards all improvements in the machinery and art of grinding, occasions great waste of time, indifferent service, and vexatious debates and law-suits, about abstracted multures. A conversion of all multures, and a consequent freedom to grind wherever people found themselves best served, and the acceptance of an equivalent, for buying off the astringency of one heritor's lands to another heritor's mills, would bring every thing to rights, and make a great change for the better. This measure, adopted by general consent, would be a laudable concession to public utility; and, on supposition of full indemnification, could do no prejudice to any. This measure was long since adopted in the county of Clackmanan. Its happy effects were soon observed, in an emulation among the millers, to excel in their machinery, and art, and prompt service; and the corn yielded considerably more meal than ever it had formerly produced, in consequence of an improved management.

The sale of all grain by a common standard of weight, will be generally approved.

A P P E N D I X.

Causes, Antiquity, and Effects, of the Maviston Sand-hills, &c.

IN passing through the parish of Dyke, no object strikes the attention sooner, or more excites the curiosity of travellers, than the sand-hills, piled up along the coast. Some account of their causes, antiquity, and effects, may be expected in a publication of this nature.

These hills contain no different strata, or other marks of an original state. Nor could they receive their formation from the sea, as is commonly supposed, having no mixture of shells, pebbles, or sea-weeds. They are an immense accumulation of a pure white sand, of the smallest grit. Doubtless the sea has, at some time, supplied the material; but the winds have always been the arbiters of their form, situation, and size. They rise gradually on the south-west, and are steep on the south-east side. This is the tract of our strongest winds here, which further appears, by the bent and falling of trees in the same direction. The smallest particles are always the first suspended, and the last that are deposited by water, after which, they lie nearest to the winds, and are easily swept away, while stones, pebbles, shells, and sand of a larger grit, are left upon the beach. This accounts for the shape of these hills, and for the fineness and
purity

purity of their sand. It must have been a prodigious agitation of the ocean, that could so affect an inland frith, as to throw out, within reach of the wind, such accumulations of sand, as are now contained in the parishes of Kinloss, Dyke, and Auldearn. But the wide opening into the Moray Frith, from Buchan-Nefs to Dungsby-Head, has made it liable, wherever the coast was flat, to a wider inundation, and deeper load of sand, through the confinement of a large body of water, forced up into a narrowing channel. But the violent commotions of the German Ocean, are visible on the coast of Holland, and all along the eastern coast of Great Britain, from the Goodwin Sands in Kent, to the Pentland Frith.

Though the era of the sand's arrival here, is beyond the reach of local tradition, history takes notice of several inundations, when large quantities of sea-sand, might have been lodged, and augmented upon our flat and early cultivated coast. The deluge, in later times, that seems most likely to have had the greatest effect, in this way, upon our island, is that inundation of the German Ocean which swept away the princely estate of Earl Goodwin, in Kent, and left the Goodwin Sands in its room. Such a commotion of the waters as could produce that effect, must have reached all the friths, on the eastern coasts, as far up as the salt-water could flow, and must have affected the navigation, as well as the agriculture, of the coast, upon that side.

The era of this calamitous event, was in the close of the 11th century, in the reign of King William Rufus of England, and near the demise of King Malcolm Canmore of Scotland.

1. Trussler, who has probably followed Blair's Chronology, and the English historians, in this matter, refers the origin of the Goodwin Sands to the year 1100.

2. To

2. To the like devastation in Scotland, and the superabundant lodgement of sand upon our coast, Buchanan seems clearly to allude, at the end of the Life of Malcolm Canmore; and though he avoids specifying the exact year of King Malcolm's demise, it is clear, from his description, and his use of the word *prodigia*, that he has, in this matter, grounded on the authority of Boethius. The indefinite expressions of Buchanan, "Inter prodigia hoc tempore numeratur, maris Germanici tam insolita inundatio, ut non agros modo dimerferit, et arenis obruerit, sed et vicos, oppida et arces everterit."

3. Boethius, according to whom King Malcolm died in 1097, comes within three year's of Trussler's date, and extends this commotion of the sea expressly to the Moray Frith. "Incidit Malcomi mors anno redemptionis supra millesimum septimo & nonagesimo, idibus Octobris; Regni vero ejus trigesimo septimo. Eodem vero anno, Albion multis gravissimisque prodigiis territa est. Nam exundatione Germanici maris, multi vici, castella, oppidaque, & maximæ sylvæ subrutæ sunt, in Scotia pariter & in Anglia. Qua tempestate sedeta, Agri Godovini, cujus superius mentionem fecimus, haud procul a Thamisis fluminis ostiis, arena obruti sunt, quæ & nostra memoria Godovinæ Arenæ appellantur, vulgo Godvin Sands. Nec parum Agri Moraviani in Scotia eodem tempore a mari est devastatum, subrutis a fundamento Castellis, deletisque urbibus quibusdam, cultuique effectum humano, (ob arenas a mari egestas) ineptum. Tonitrua facta tam ingentia, tamque immani fragore horrida, ut multi homines in agris icti, & animantia quædam perierint. Turres quoque eorum impetu prostratæ. In Laudonia, Fifa et Angusia, arbores et segetes multis in locis sponte incensæ."

4. In the same year which Boethius mentions as so destructive to Moray, John of Fordun, in his *Scotichronicon*,
B. vii.

B. vii. ch. 50. takes notice of the appearance of a comet, which seems, at least, to have much affected the atmosphere; and possibly its approximation to the earth, in its aphelion, might have occasioned an unusual swell of tides, and contributed, in that year, to make the commotion of the waters more violent and destructive. "*Anno Dom. 1107, incepit ordo Trinitatis, & eodem anno, imperii Henrici Quarti quadragesimo primo, (i. e. in the 41st year of the Emperor Henry the IV.), cometis in occidente apparuit, a prima heptomade Octobris. Nimia aquarum inundatione autumnalis salio impeditur, & sterilitas frugum terræ sequitur.*" The "*inundatio aquarum*" seems not more applicable to the clouds than to the sea, overwhelming the best and warmest cultivated lands on the coast, best adapted to the production of winter grain. For these two last quotations, I am indebted to Professor Macleod, Sub-principal of King's College, Aberdeen; and there seems to be no doubt, that all the above quotations relate to the era of the Goodwin Sands.

There is another passage in Fordun, B. x. ch. 22. quoted in Lord Hailes's Annals, that seems to relate to an after inundation, about 1266, being more than 160 years later than the above dates. "*Sed in profesto undecem mille virginum, tempestas permaxima, ab aquilone suborta est, unde mare in rabiem concitatum, fines debitas miro modo transgrediens, domos, villas, arbores, complanavit, et damna plurima intulit multis locis, sed maxime inter flumina de le Tay & Tweed. Tempestas talis non est visa, a diebus Noë usque ad diem illum, sunt adhuc vestigia manifestant.*"

I have also been told, upon good authority, that there is a passage in the Red Book of the Priory of Pluscardin, now lying in the Advocates Library, at Edinburgh, that would seem to refer to an earlier inundation than those above mentioned.

mentioned, provided there be no mistake about the date, viz. that the whole laigh of Moray had been covered by the sea in the year 1010. A transposition of the two middle figures, (which would be no surprising slip of memory), would bring the year 1010, mentioned by my informer, to correspond exactly with Trusler's date of the origin of the Goodwin Sands, in 1100. Such as have access, may have recourse to that book.

Many of the best lands in this parish, which, from their situation, could not escape being overflowed in the 11th century, still continue in safety and great fertility.

The effects of the lodgement of sand then made, have spread considerably during the last 700 years, and overwhelmed, with a deep cover of dry sand, many grounds which the sea had, at its reflux, left tolerably clear. The north corner of this parish, in which was comprehended, with other lands, the large and populous barony of Culbin, was, in the last century, called the Granary of Moray; but the deposited sand, which had been piled up by the winds into three enormous hills, and especially below Maviston in Auldearn parish, has long continued to affect the nearest cultivated lands. From this great reservoir, the sand has been in a constant progress, from the south-west to the north-east; and a very large proportion of the three Maviston hills, have, in my remembrance, been blown away, and lodged in the north extremity of this parish. The barony of Culbin, lying nearest to the Maviston hills, and most in the tract of the strongest winds, was most exposed, and for many years suffered gradual encroachments, and diminutions of rent and population. It was only in the end of the last century, that the mansion-house and gardens were overwhelmed, by an uncommonly violent drifting of the sand, and the messuage-house removed to Ern-hill, a remaining corner of that estate, quite out of the tract of the winds. Yet, since that time,
the

the lands of Drumreach, and Lake, and even some part of Binsness, have been covered. But, from the tract of the winds, it can do little more damage in that quarter than has been done already. About 20 years ago, a march-stone was placed on the top of a sand-hill, from 40 to 50 feet in height, to make it more conspicuous; some said, the march would tumble down; others, that it would sink out of sight, in the sand. But the stone always remained visible, sinking gradually, with the hill, till the hill had entirely forsook it, and fled. From the north-east corner of this parish, where the sand has been long accumulating, it is by strong winds carried into the sea, and sometimes is carried across the river mouth. At the town of Findern, in a blowing day, one may feel the sand sharply striking on his face, from the west side.

Another effect of the sand-hills, is a change made, in the last century, of the bed and mouth of the river, which has now got a shorter passage to the sea, and occasioned an entire removal of the harbour and town of Findern, for more than half-a-mile down the frith. There is a narrow neck of land, belonging to the parish of Kinloss, and barony of Meurton, to which it lay contiguous, while it was on the right side of the river. It stretched up the frith, for about 3 miles, towards the Maviston hills. On this neck, now covered with sand and bent-grass, and fit only for sheep pasture, and summer huts, for stell fishings, stood the town and harbour of Findern, three-fourths of a mile west of where they now are. At the wester end of this neck of land, now called

The Old Bar, lay the mouth of the river, which then run between this bar and the estate of Culbin, in the parish of Dyke. The old bed of the river is yet visible, and the old bar is yet insulated during the flood of spring tides, except at its wester end, where the ground is

highest, in a place where the river had formerly run. This shews, that the river has been damed up by the drifting of sand; and that this had most probably happened during the high winds in the last century, which gave the finishing stroke to the depopulation of Culbin. As the river then entered the frith so near to Maviston hills, it is presumable, that the sand had then choked and filled up the mouth and bed of the river, and this, with concurrence of the first land spit, has made the river cut its way through the easter end of the flat and narrow neck before mentioned, so as to leave it, with the old town and harbour, on the left side.

People alive 40 years ago, remembered to have seen the stones of old Findern removed to the easter side of the new channel, and applied in building the first houses of the present town, on the Meurton side, from which the old bar, now contiguous to the parish of Dyke, had been completely disjoined.

Since the former channel was deserted, both ends of the old bar have been considerably washed away and shortened by the tides. Some of the stones of the old town, which have subsided, are yet to be seen at ebb of tide, in a clear day, lying at the bottom of the salt-water, when boats are passing over them. And these remnants of the old houses, are more than half-a-mile west of where the present town stands.

But though the river forced a direct passage into the sea, it has not been able to keep a clear channel into the deep water. A new bar, opposite to its present mouth, is stretching westward, between which and the old bar, the safest access into the present harbour is from the west.

NUMBER X.

PARISH OF COLLACE,

(COUNTY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING,
PRESBYTERY OF PERTH).

By a friend to Statistical Inquiries.

COLLACE, the etymology of which is uncertain, lies on the north side of the Sidla ridge of hills, 7 miles north-east of Perth, and 6 south-south-west of Cupar; in the presbytery, synod, and county of Perth; bounded, on the west, by the parish of St Martin; on the north and east, by Cargill; on the south-east, by Abernyte; on the south and south-west, by Kinnaird and Kilnspindie; being about 2 miles in length, and as much in breadth.

Appearance, Soil, &c.—The northern division of this parish, tolerably uniform, and rising gently towards the hills, consists, partly of a light black loam, partly of mortar, on a bottom of till, and partly of sandy and mossy tracts, of
no

no great extent. The district southward of the church, forms a portion of the elevated ridge already mentioned, which, with little interruption, extends from Perth, east-north-east, to Red-head, a promontory on the coast of Angus. The acclivity of those hills fronting the north, is in some places improved, and in others yields tolerable pastures: but the summit is every where covered with short heath, Dunfinnan hill excepted.

Population.—The population of Collace will appear from the following Statistical Table:

Number of inhabitants in the parish,	-	473
----- males,	-	245
----- females,	-	228
----- widowers,	-	9
----- widows,	-	16
----- farmers,	-	14
----- inconsiderable tenants,	-	89
----- cottagers,	-	12
----- servants, { males,	-	42
{ females,	-	41
----- minister,	-	1
----- schoolmaster,	-	1
----- gardener,	-	1
----- masons,	-	2
----- weaver-apprentices,	-	6
----- shoemakers,	-	3
----- tailors,	-	4
----- wrights,	-	6
----- flax-dressers,	-	5
----- millers,	-	2
----- day-labourers,	-	3
----- retailer of ale and whisky,	-	1
		Number

Number of merchants,	-	-	3
———— butcher,	-	-	1
———— smiths,	-	-	2
———— weavers,	-	-	47

The number of inhabitants below 10 is 93 ; between 10 and 20, 68 ; 20 and 50, 211 ; 50 and 70, 77 ; 70 and 80, 23 ; 80 and 90, 1. About 12 years ago, the number of births annually was 10, of marriages 3, of deaths 8. In the years 1790, 1791, and 1792, there were, at an average, 18 births, 4 marriages, and 12 deaths yearly. So that population, in this parish, is gradually increasing, which is owing, principally, to the encouragement given by the proprietor to farmers and tradesmen of every denomination. There are 117 inhabited houses, including one lint and one corn-mill. Two small villages lie at the foot of the hills, viz. Collace, situated on a rivulet, and Kinrossie, on elevated ground, not far from the church.

Agriculture, &c.—Improvements in agriculture are carried on, in this parish, with great ardour and success. About 20 years ago, a considerable proportion of it consisted of out-field, which, though very improveable, was held *gratis* by the tenants, and, on that account, was neglected. Every farm was then composed of detached fields, or several were blended together in run-rig ; which were effectual bars to improvement. On his accession to the estate, Lord Dunfinnan, sole proprietor of the parish, formed a judicious arrangement, which has been productive of the most beneficial effects. The lands are now divided into regular farms, and partly inclosed ; and a certain quantity of out-field is allotted to every farm. Handsome farm-houses have been built ; some of them at the proprietor's expence, and others by the tenant. Seven of the farm-houses are built of stone and lime,

lime, and covered with slate ; and the rest, even those occupied by tradesmen, are sufficiently neat and commodious. A free house and garden is assigned to every aged and infirm person, who is incapacitated for the duties of active life, and unable to procure subsistence by labour.

Dunfinnan-house, the proprietor's residence, is pleasantly situated, in the north-west corner of the parish, on a gentle eminence, 7 miles from Perth, to the north of the turnpike road which leads to Cupar-Angus. It is well sheltered from the northerly wind, by a large and thriving plantation of forest trees. The mansion-house is elegant, and the offices are well built, handsome, and spacious.

In that neighbourhood, several extensive tracts, formerly heathy and barren, are now enclosed, and in a state of high cultivation.

In consequence of recent improvements, considerable quantities of sown grass, turnips, potatoes, and flax, besides oats and barley, are annually raised. Some wheat is sown, and yields moderate returns. The scheme adopted by an intelligent and enterprising tenant is as follows : His farm is subdivided into seven parts. The first is fallow, well prepared with dung, and a sufficient quantity of lime ; second, barley or wheat ; third, turnip, potatoes, or pease ; fourth, barley, with clover and rye-grass ; fifth, grass ; sixth, grass ; seventh, oats. The successful efforts of another tenant, merit particular notice. His small farm, some years ago, consisted of fields, partly dry and stony, partly wet and marshy. This rude tract, he enclosed by a six feet ditch, drained by means of rumbling sewers, and ploughed for two or three years. When thoroughly pulverised, he applied lime, at the rate of 40 bolls of shells *per* acre, with as much dung as he could procure. In every field, thus prepared, he sowed oats, and the year following, barley. The crops answered his most sanguine expectation, and were remarkably

ably luxuriant. His success directed the attention of other farmers, to fields they had neglected, and incited them to follow his example. Some of the tenants, indeed, are not sufficiently attentive to a regular rotation of crops; but all of them are careful to extirpate noxious weeds, pulverise the soil, and apply proper quantities of lime, which is purchased at Perth, at the rate of 1 s. 9 d. *per* boll, of shells, if brought from Lord Elgin's kilns; and 2 s. 4 d. *per* boll, if imported from England. Two sorts of bear, viz. barley and chester, are promiscuously used by some, and separately by other farmers. Dutch oats were lately introduced, and have two valuable properties, namely, they arrive sooner at maturity, and yield a greater quantity of meal than the common oats. However, as they soon degenerate, and are easily shaken by the wind, it is not likely that they will prevail in this part of the country.

Prices of Farming Utensils, Labour, and Provisions.—The prices of farming utensils, labour, and provisions, are nearly the same as in neighbouring districts. There are 45 ploughs in this parish; 71 carts; 114 horses; and 394 black-cattle. The price of a cart is L. 5 or L. 6; and of a plough, L. 1, 17 s. Oat-meal, at an average, is 13 s. 4 d. *per* boll; barley ditto, 8 s. 6 d.; pease ditto, 9 s. 6 d.; potatoes, 4 s. Butter, 9 d. *per* lib; cheese, 3 d.; butcher-meat, 3½ d. A hen costs 10 d.; a chicken, 4 d.; a dozen eggs, 4 d. The wages of a male-servant, exclusive of victuals, are L. 9 a-year; of a female-servant, L. 3, and L. 3, 10 s. A day labourer, in summer, 8 d. and in winter, 6 d.; a hay cutter, 1 s. 3 d.; a lint miller, 1 s. 4 d.; a tailor, 6 d. A male shearer L. 1, 6 s. during harvest, or 1 s. *per* day; a female 16 s. 8 d. during harvest, or 9 d. a-day. A rood of slater's work is from 16 s. 8 d. to L. 1; a rood of mason work from L. 1, 5 s. to L. 1, 10 s. A foot of thatching is 6 d. or 7 d. A ditcher receives from
8 d.

8 d. to 10 d. *per* rood, for a ditch of six feet. Hedges are cleaned, and young trees planted, at the rate of 10 d. or 1 s. a-day.

Ecclesiastical State.—The few following facts will shew the ecclesiastical state of Collace, as far as it is necessary to be exhibited in a work of this nature. The church, an old and indifferent fabric, stands on a rising ground, about a mile westward of Dunfinnan hill. The manse and offices, neat, handsome, and commodious, were built A. D. 1778, on a new site, nearer the church than the former manse, which is in the village of Collace. The stipend is 73 bolls victual, and L. 5 : 11 : 1½ Sterling, with a glebe of 7½ acres. The names of the ministers, since the commencement of this century, are, Mr Smith; Mr Ramsay, settled A. D. 1713; Mr Faichney, 1739; Mr Kilgour, 1774; Mr Baird, 1778; Mr Maclicsh, 1783.

Poor.—In 1783, the poor's funds did not exceed L. 84; at present they are L. 141, 14 s. The poor are supported by collections in the church, mort-cloth money, and some seat-rents; the annual amount of all which may be L. 15 Sterling.

Quarries and Roads.—A quarry, in the village of Collace, was supposed, for many years, to have been exhausted; but workmen lately employed to explore it, found a bed of excellent free-stone; and appearances indicate abundance of the same valuable article in other parts of the parish. The great turnpike-road from Perth to Cupar traverses this parish, in an oblique direction. Other roads are repaired by statute-labour, converted into money, at the rate of 8 s. or 12 s. for every plough.

Antiquities.

Antiquities.—The most noted remain of antiquity, is Macbeth's Castle, on Dunfinnan hill, in the south-east corner of the parish. This remarkable hill is insulated, and of an oval form, with a flat and verdant summit. The ascent, from the village of Collace, on the north-west, is gradual; and there some vestiges of a winding road may still be traced. On all other sides, the hill is steep, and of difficult access. It is separated from a hill on the east, by a narrow valley, covered with verdure. The area on which the fort stood, being 168 yards in length, 100 in breadth near the east, and 55 near the west extremity, was anciently environed by a wall of stone, without cement. The entrance into the fort was at the north-east corner of the area. Tho' no trace of the fort now appears, yet, it is probable, that the foundation is entire, as the building was consumed by fire. It must, therefore, be the ardent wish of every antiquary, that this spot were thoroughly explored. Several years ago, some gentlemen, in digging a pit near the middle of the area, discovered pieces of the bones of animals, brick, and burnt corn. At a remote period, this was, no doubt, one of the stations whence signals, on any alarm, were made by fire. The story of the Usurper's defeat, flight northward, and death at Lumphanan, is known to every reader conversant in the history of Scotland.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

RESPECTING THE

CASTLE OF DUNSINNAN,

OR DUNSINANE,

And on the probability, that SHAKESPEARE, had collected on the Spot, the Traditions of the Country respecting Macbeth, and founded thereon his celebrated Drama.

By SIR JOHN SINCLAIR.

THE AUTHOR OF THE STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF SCOTLAND, happened, *anno* 1772, to take an excursion to Perthshire, and being accidentally led to visit the remains of Dunfinnan Castle, took a sketch of them, as they appeared at that time, and collected all the traditions respecting the history of Macbeth, that were current in the neighbourhood. The story purported, that Macbeth, after his elevation to the throne, had resided for 10 years at Carnbeddie, in the neighbouring parish of St Martin's, which the country people call *Carn-beth*, or Macbeth's Castle, and where the vestiges of his castle are still to be seen. During those times, witchcraft was very prevalent in Scotland,

land, and two of the most famous witches in the kingdom, lived on each hand of Macbeth, one at Collace, the other not far from Dunfinnan-house, at a place called the Cape *, Macbeth, taking a superstitious turn, he applied to them for advice, and by their counsel, he built a lofty castle, upon the top of an adjoining hill, since called Dunfinnan, which, in the Gaelic language, signifies “*The bill of ants*,” implying the great labour and industry so essentially requisite for collecting the materials of so vast a building. It was by nature strong, as well as fortified by art, being partly defended by high outer rocks, and partly surrounded by an outer wall, which enclosed a considerable space of ground, for exercising the men, &c. There was also a fossé, which joined the wall and outer rocks, and a high rampart which environed the whole, and defended the castle, itself large and well fortified. From the top of the hill, there is an extensive view of above 50 miles every way, comprehending Fifeshire, the hills in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, Glen-Almond, Crieff, the hills in the neighbourhood of Blair-Athol, and Braemarr; Strathmore also and a great part of Angus are immediately under view. In short, there could not be a more commanding situation.

When Malcolm Canmore came into Scotland, supported by English auxiliaries, to recover his dominions from Macbeth *The Giant*, as the country people called him, he marched first towards Dunkeld, in order to meet with those friends who had promised to join him from the north. This led him

* The moor where the witches met, which is in the parish of St Martin's, is yet pointed out by the country people, and there is a stone still preserved, which is called the *witches stone*. The moor is now planted, by William Macdonald, Esq; of St Martin's, the proprietor, and to whom also Carnbeth, or Carnbeddie, belongs; whose active zeal in promoting the improvement of the Highlands, will long be remembered, in that part of the kingdom, with much respect.

him to Birnam wood, where accidentally they were induced, either by way of distinction, or from some other motive, to ornament their bonnets, or to carry about with them, in their hands, the branches of trees. The people in the neighbourhood stated, as the tradition of the country, that they were distinguished in this situation by the spy, whom Macbeth had stationed to watch their motions. He then began to despair, in consequence of the witches predictions, who had warned him to beware "when Birnam wood should come to Dunfinane;" and when Malcolm prepared to attack the castle, where it was principally defended by the outer rocks, he immediately deserted it, and flying, ran up the opposite hill, pursued by Macduff; but finding it impossible to escape, he threw himself from the top of the hill, was killed upon the rocks, and buried at *the Lang Man's Grave**, as it is called, which is still extant. For the purpose of giving a better idea of these circumstances, a slight and imperfect sketch, drawn up at the time, is annexed.

Such were the traditions in the neighbourhood of Dunfinnan Castle, in 1772; and the reader will naturally be struck, with the resemblance between them, and the celebrated play, which Shakespeare founded on the history of Macbeth. There is every reason, indeed, to believe, that our great dramatist was upon the spot himself, and was inspired with such uncommon poetical powers, from having viewed the places, where the scenes he drew, were supposed to have been transacted. In Guthrie's History of Scotland, vol. viii. p. 358. it is stated, that, *anno* 1599, King James desired Elizabeth to send him, in that year, a company of English comedians, with which request she complied,

* It would be worth while to examine this grave, as some curious facts might be ascertained from it. It is proper to add, that not far from it is the road, where, according to the tradition of the country people, Banquo was murdered. See the annexed sketch.

ed, and James gave them a licence to act in his capital, and before his Court. "I have great reason," he adds, "to think" that the immortal Shakespeare was of the number." And in the Statistical Account of Perth, vol. xviii. p. 522. we are told, that plays were actually exhibited in Perth, only a few miles from Dunfinnan, in 1589. It is extremely improbable, that the occurrences, as narrated by Shakespeare, and the traditions of the country, could have borne so strong a resemblance, unless he had gathered them upon the spot himself, or employed some other person for that purpose. The only material difference is, that, according to tradition, Macbeth threw himself from the top of a rock; but it was much more poetical, as narrated by Shakespeare, his falling by the hands of Macduff, whom he had so greatly injured †.

About the period alluded to, *anno* 1772, I took much pleasure in tracing the antiquities of Scotland, on the spot where the different occurrences happened; but was too young, (being then only about 18 years of age), to do justice to such interesting inquiries. I have been tempted, however, from the peculiar historical importance of the castle of Dunfinnan, to state the substance of the traditions I had collected respecting it; and perhaps it may not be improper to add, that I found the traditions regarding the battle of Luncarty, and other ancient events, much more distinct and accurate than is commonly imagined; and, in general, authenticated by the

† History narrates, that Macbeth was put to death at Lumphannan; but the tradition of the country is, that he was killed and buried in the neighbourhood of his own castle. It is singular that Buchanan, in his History, points out the story of Macbeth, as admirably calculated for the drama. Did Shakespeare take the first hint from, or give it to, the Scottish historian? The idea of Shakespeare having been in Scotland, is rendered still more probable, by the number of Scottish words and phrases made use of in his plays, and also from his parody on the well known lines in the Scotch ballad, beginning, "In days when our King Robert rang."

the remains of encampments, the ruins of castles, the vestiges of tombs, the appearance of mote-hills, or seats of justice, and the names of places, all affording concurring evidence of their authenticity.

The circumstances regarding the battle of Luncarty, in particular, were uncommonly minute and circumstantial. The encampments of the Scottish and Danish armies *, the place where Hay and his gallant sons resided, called Gullan, a farm opposite to Luncarty, the field they were ploughing at the time, the ford where they crossed the Tay, and the very spot where they stopped and animated their flying countrymen, &c. &c. were all pointed out, by old men in the neighbourhood, when examined by the Author, in 1772.

* The place where the Danish army had encamped, was, *anno* 1772, called Denmark.

NUM.

NUMBER XI.

PARISH OF EVIE AND RENDALL,

(COUNTY OF ORKNEY, SYNOD OF ORKNEY, AND PRESBY-
TERY OF KIRKWALL.)

By the Rev. MR HUGH ROSS, Preacher of the Gospel.

Name, Situation, and Extent.

THE origin of the names of these united parishes is unknown. They are situated in the northern extremity of the largest of the Orkney islands, commonly called the Mainland, in the presbytery of Kirkwall, synod and county of Orkney. They are bounded on the north, by the ocean ; on the north-east, by a frith called Enhallow Sound, which divides Evie from the islands of Enhallow and Rousay ; on the east, by the continuance of the same sound, separating these parishes from the islands of Wier, Gairsay, and Shapinsay ; on the south, by a bay of the sea called Damsay Sound, separating Rendall from the parish
of

of Kirkwall and St Ollay, and part of the parish of Frith; and on the west, by the parishes of Harray and Birsay; from which these united parishes are separated by a chain of hilly ground, wholly covered with peat-moss and heath, and a fresh water loch or lake, two miles long, and about one-half mile broad. These parishes lie wholly along the sea-shore. The extreme length, from the south-east point of Rendall, to the north-west point of Evie, is about ten miles; the breadth of the inhabited part, from one mile to a mile and a half. There is a kind of earthen fence, called the Hill Dike, which runs along the whole length of both parishes, and separates the corn and grass grounds from the hills, mosses, and moors, which lie betwixt these and the neighbouring parishes, and which form an undivided common. From this dike the cultivated ground generally lies in an easy slope to the sea-shore, which is low and flat till within about a mile of the north west extremity of Evie, when it rises into a bold rocky promontory called Costay-head, which forms the south side of the entrance to Westray Frith, the north side of the entrance being formed by a similar promontory in the island of Westray, at about five or six leagues distance. The island of Gairsay, separated from Rendall by a strait of about a mile and a half broad, with three holms, or small uninhabited islands, lie in these united parishes. Gairsay is a green hill, of nearly a conical figure, from three to four miles in circumference at the base, having a pretty large mansion-house, now almost in ruins, and a tolerable farm, with four small farms, and some cottages, lying on the south side of it. It has also an excellent small harbour, called the Mill-burn, perfectly secured on all sides by the island itself, and a small holm, which covers the entrance to the south, leaving a passage on each side of it to the harbour.

Extent

Extent of Coast, Kelp, &c.—The whole extent of coast, exclusive of Gairsay and the holms, may be 13 or 14 miles; and the shores, being mostly flat and rocky, produce seaweed or tang, from which kelp is made to the amount of 70 tons at an average, yearly. The expence of manufacturing which is from a guinea to a guinea and a half *per* ton; but the expence of this, as well as every other kind of labour, is daily increasfing.

Soil and Culture.—These parishes are tolerably fertile, and produce pretty good crops, considering the variable climate and defective mode of culture. The soil, in general, is rather shallow, an admixture of clay and sand on a rocky bottom, which renders it wet in winter, and liable to be poached by the cattle, as there is no winter herding, nor any inclosures. The corn lands have been kept in perpetual tillage for time immemorial, without fallowing, or any rotation of crops, except bear and small grey oats alternately. In Evie the principal manure is ware or sea-weed, of which there is generally a sufficient quantity drove on shore during the winter and spring. In Rendall, having little of this kind of manure, as its shores are furrounded with islands, they use a compost of earth and dung, and in some places sea-weed of an inferior quality. To procure this earth, they pare off the surface of the grass and pasture grounds, in many places to the totally impoverishing the soil, and rendering it wholly usefess. The Orkney side-plough, with one stilt, is universally used. It is drawn by three or four small horses a-breast, and though, to a stranger, it seems a very awkward trifling machine, totally unfit for tillage, (as it certainly is in a stiff soil), yet, where the ground has been in constant tillage, with an experienced ploughman, it performs a great deal of work, and in a manner far beyond expectation; infomuch, that the present in-

cumbent, a stranger in Orkney, and much prejudiced against this machine, affirms, that after repeated careful trials, he could discover no difference betwixt the crops raised after this plough, and the crops raised after a very good two-filted one. The returns of bear are from five to six feeds; of the oats three, or three and a half, seldom or ever four. The only improvement attempted in these parishes is rearing potatoes. In 1769, there were none raised in either parish, except a few in Rendall, in lazy-beds; and as late as 1784 there were none raised in Evie. They are now universally cultivated with success, in sufficient quantities for the inhabitants, but very few for sale, there being no market for them. The only other vegetable raised is cabbage, which thrives exceeding well; and the minister's garden shews, that all the other vegetables raised in the north of Scotland, would thrive equally well in these parishes. The ground in cultivation amounts to about 1200 planks, of 40 fathoms, or 80 yards square, each; all the other ground consists of meadow, (from which some hay is made), and some very good natural grass and pasture. By far the greater part of the rents are payable in kind, that is, in bear or malt, oat-meal, tallow, butter, poultry, peats, and but a trifle in money. The whole amounting, at the ordinary conversion, to about L. 800 Sterling.

Size of Farms, Horses, Cattle, &c.—The farms are generally very small, consisting of from 6 to 10 or 12 planks of arable land, besides grass and pasture. There are indeed three or four tenants who rent tolerable farms; but of these they subset a considerable part. There are besides these a good number of cottagers, who have a small patch of corn land, with two or three black-cattle, and perhaps a small Shetland horse. The number of horses in these parishes is fully 500, worth from L. 4 to L. 10 Sterling. This is perhaps

haps double the number necessary, owing principally to custom and the smallness of the farms; very few of them are bred in these parishes, but are bought when year-olds from dealers, who bring them over from Caithness and Sutherland, and are sold again to the same dealers, from four years old and upwards, very few of them dying in the parish. There are about 1300 black-cattle, principally cows and queys, all reared in the parish; the greater part of which are sold out of it at different ages, very few of them being consumed by the inhabitants. The prices of them are almost doubled within these few years, being now, in 1797, from two to four guineas a-head. Few or no oxen are used or reared. The number of sheep may be about 2000, though, as they all run wild, without any herd, it is impossible to ascertain their number with any precision; very few sheep are sold, being either consumed by the owners, or allowed to die of old age, or perish for want of care. No care whatever is taken of meliorating the breed of them, or of the black-cattle. The number of swine may be about 400 or 500, of a very diminutive species. They are sold, when full grown, from 4 s. to 8 s. They go at large from the end of harvest till the month of May, and being never ringed, and getting no food from their owners, do incredible mischief with their snouts both to corn and grass grounds. Every family rears a number of geese and other poultry.

Servants Wages.—The wages of a capable man-servant are from L. 3 to L. 4, 10 s. Sterling *per annum*; of a woman 20 s. to 30 s. All servants are maintained in the family. Men-servants are rendered scarce by considerable drains to the navy, the Greenland and herring fisheries, but above all to Hudson's Bay. The making of kelp, also, takes up a good many hands in the summer months.—
There

There are different tradespeople in the parish, sufficient to serve its purposes; but no manufactory carried on deserving the name, except that of linen-yarn; a very considerable quantity of which is spun for sale, besides what is wrought up into coarse cloth for the use of the inhabitants, and for annual exportation to Shetland, Newcastle, &c. There are also some woollen stuffs manufactured for sale, besides stuffs, coarse blankets, and woollen cloths, for the use of the inhabitants; but there is not one mill for cloth, nor a person who can dress it up after it is wove, in this parish, nor even in the county.

Boats and Fishing.—There are about 30 boats in these parishes, from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 tons burden, with 4, and a very few with 6, oars each. The fish caught are, excellent cod and ling, dogfish and a few skate, hollibat and haddocks, all caught with hand-lines; and saithe or coalfish of different ages; also lobsters, and razor or spout-fish, and cockles. The fishing appears to be very much neglected. As there are no merely professional fishers, and no ready markets, every man fishes for his own family use only, when he can spare time from his other avocations.

Bars to Improvement.—These are chiefly the intermixture of property and farms, want of inclosures, short, or rather no leases, and, above all, the habits and prejudices of the inhabitants. Owing to these, no material improvement can take place in the mode of managing the small farms; and no encouragement whatever is given by the proprietors to induce the farmers to attempt it. Almost the whole of the arable land of these parishes lay formerly in run-rig, as a small part of it still does. Above 30 years ago, a division took place, but so injudicious, that even where there are large and very compact fields belonging to a single proprietor,
and

and divided into nine or a dozen farms, each farmer possesses perhaps twelve patches of ground, of a plank each, scattered over the whole. And though quarries of excellent stone, and easily wrought, lie every where near the surface, no encouragement is given to inclosing; and the people seem averse to a mode that would impede what they think the natural liberty of themselves and their cattle, to traverse every field at pleasure during the greatest part of the year. The present minister wished to inclose at least part of his glebe, but met with every obstruction, not only from his lowest and most turbulent neighbours, but also from the late factor of his principal heritor.

Were proper encouragement given, and prudent methods followed, to promote improvements in agriculture, there cannot be a doubt but that the value of these parishes might be greatly increased, both to the proprietors and community. There are 13 heritors in these parishes. Only two of them are of any consequence, and both of them non-resident, viz. Lord Armadale, and John Traile, Esq; of Woodwick, who has but lately succeeded to a very old and infirm relation. The highest rent of the other heritors is about L. 12 Sterling, and the lowest 5 s. Almost all the lands pay a feu-duty, and some of them a very heavy one, to Lord Dundas, as representing the Crown in the earldom, or as tacksmen of the bishopric of Orkney.

Condition of the People and Pools Funds.—In the former respect, they differ very little from the neighbouring districts. None of them can be called rich, and but few of them extremely indigent. The pools funds are miserable indeed. The annual collections in both parishes seldom exceed L. 3 Sterling; and fines from delinquents, marriage, and mort-cloth dues, amount to still less. Out of this, two precentors and session-clerk, and two kirk-officers, have hitherto

thereto been paid, and formerly even the kirks thatched ; so that very little remained to be distributed, as there are no other funds.

Population.—An accurate list of the population of these parishes was taken up in 1789, when the number of souls was 1564. The lists of baptisms and marriages, taken from the registers, are as follow :

Baptisms in Evie.	Males.	Females.
From 1725 to 1735, -	123	98
From 1755 to 1765, -	139	71
From 1786 to 1796, -	93	70

Marriages in Evie.	
From 1725 to 1735, -	73
From 1786 to 1796, -	44

Baptisms in Rendall.	Males.	Females.
From 1725 to 1735, -	90	64
From 1755 to 1765, -	78	79

Owing to the distance of Rendall from the minister, change of clerks, and the people endeavouring to evade the trifling dues of registration, especially during the late tax on births, &c. no accurate list of baptisms in that parish could be obtained for the last ten years, nor any complete list of marriages ; and no regular register of burials has ever been kept in these parishes.

Many married men go to Hudson's Bay, and some to the navy, and leave their wives at home till their return.

These parishes are tolerably healthy, and pretty free from contagious disorders, nor are any particular local distempers known.

Longevity.

Longevity.—There are four people now alive above 80 years of age; one of 86; but none have reached 90, at least since the year 1769.

Religion, Kirks, Manse, Stipend, Glebes, and Schools.—The people of these parishes are in general decent and well disposed: gross crimes are unknown. They are free from profaneness on the one hand, and, hitherto, from fanaticism on the other.—The kirk of Evie was situated near the manse, and near the middle of that parish, 17 or 18 miles north-west from Kirkwall. And the kirk of Rendall lies almost in the south extremity of that parish. They were both, originally, poor small houses, thatched annually with straw. As far back as the year 1769, when the present incumbent came to Orkney, they were both in a very ruinous situation; but as the late incumbent, who was settled in 1725, was very old and infirm, and, for ten years, never went beyond his own garden, no steps were taken by him to get them any ways repaired; and the present incumbent, officiated in them, in that ruinous state, without a pane of glass, or even a window-frame, as assistant and successor, from the year 1772. Upon the death of his predecessor, in the year 1781, he applied to the principal heritors, and afterwards, at their desire, to his presbytery, when, after a legal visitation, where the principal heritors assisted, they were both judicially condemned as ruinous and irreparable; and upon a petition from the principal heritors, in which all the rest of the heritors, as well as Lord Dundas the patron, (but who has no property in the parish), acquiesced, the presbytery ordained a new central church to be built for the whole charge, in place of the two ruinous ones; fixed the dimensions, and gave a general decret for the expence of building the new church, of L. 156 Sterling; against which no objections were offered. The minister continued, as usual,

sual, to officiate alternately in these condemned kirks, till the year 1788, when the danger became so conspicuous, that he fortunately deserted that of Evie, as the walls soon afterwards tumbled down on a Sunday, and the materials were set up to auction. The minister then travelled every Sunday to Rendall, and officiated in that ruinous house, (once with only 17 hearers), till October 1794, when, having lost his health by officiating there, and that house also becoming very hazardous, he was obliged, by the injunctions of his physician, to desert it; so that, since that period, there has been no public worship in this charge, except in the open air, in the church-yard. He has repeatedly applied to the heritors, or their factors, and the very hard case of this charge has been often and warmly recommended by his presbytery and synod to the General Assembly, but no redress has been obtained; and these matters continue in this deplorable situation at the present moment, September 1797.

After some litigation, and considerable expence to the minister, a new manse was built in 1784; but was neither floored nor plastered, (though the minister was obliged to inhabit it), till 1786. It is neat and commodious, but exceeding insufficient, receiving water at almost every part of the walls and roof; having been built by two contractors from Edinburgh, whose accounts are said to be unsettled to this day.

The stipend was decreeted in 1759, and is L. 51 : 6 : 8 Sterling, and L. 3 : 6 : 8 for communion-elements, all in money. There are three glebes, one near the kirk of Rendall; a very good one near the manse; but, like the other farms, in detached parcels; and a third in the north end of Evie, two miles from the manse. Of this last, the whole victual rent, (and for which the minister is accountable), is payable

payable to Lord Armadale, in name of teinds. The yearly value of all the glebes, and a lispond of butter, (32 libs. Dutch), payable out of a small farm in the parish of Birfay, is about L. 20 Sterling. There are also manufactured, on the shores of the glebes, nearly two tons of kelp yearly.

There is a very decent sensible schoolmaster in Evie, with a salary of L. 12 Sterling *per annum*, paid by the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge; he is exceedingly well attended; sometimes, in winter, by 90 scholars, from whom, however, he derives little or no emolument. By his great care, diligence, and prudence, for near 40 years, in this office, he has been of the greatest advantage to this parish. There are also a kind of two parochial schoolmasters in Rendall, and on the confines of both parishes, with a salary of L. 3 each, with some trifling school-fees, of about 40s. each; but there are no tolerable school-houses in either parish.

Tides and Harbours.—A very strong tide runs along the shores of these parishes, from the Western Ocean at Costay Head, to Damfay Sound, and Kirkwall Road; the tide of flood running from north-west to south-east. Besides the harbour in Gairfay, there is another very good one for moderate sized vessels at Aikerness in Evie; and as, to the southward of Enhallow, the shores are all land-locked, and good anchorage, a vessel may ride in every bay.

NUMBER XII.

PARISH OF ST ANDREWS AND DEER-
NESS,

(COUNTY OF ORKNEY, SYNOD OF ORKNEY, PRESBYTERY
OF KIRKWALL.)

By a Friend to Statistical Inquiries.

Name, Situation, and Extent.

THESE united parishes are situated in the eastern extremity of Pomona or Mainland, the largest of the Orkney isles; in the presbytery of Kirkwall, synod and county of Orkney. St Andrew's, which is the principal parish, seems to derive its name from the tutelar saint of Scotland, to whom the church is dedicated. It is bounded on the west, by the parish of Kirkwall and St Olay; on the north-west, by Inganess Bay; on the north, by Shapinshay Frith; on the east, by Stronsay Frith; on the south, and south-east, by the Bay of Deerness and the German Ocean; and

and on the south-west, by the parish of Holme. It is about six miles long, and from one to three miles broad; and is joined to the peninsula of Deerness by a narrow neck of land, about a mile long. Tradition says, that this peninsula was once frequented by deers, from whence the name Deerness. In Gaelic, which may have been the language of the country under the Pictish kingdom, Dearness, or Durness, signifies a peninsulated promontory. It lies south-east from St Andrews, from which it is almost separated by Deer Sound; and the rest of its shores are washed by the German Ocean. From the Mull-head to the Isthmus, it is four and a half miles long, and varies in breadth from one to three miles.

Soil, Culture, and Crops.—The parish of St Andrews is in general flat; and the soil is loam and moss interspersed with stones, upon a deep cold clay and tilly bed. Hence it is naturally wet and boggy in many places. It is stiff to plough, and, in general, from the want of manure, is not very productive. Around the shores of Deerness, sand prevails most; higher up, it is loam and clay; and the middle of this parish is extremely boggy and wet. The waste lands and undivided common in both parishes, are of far greater extent than the arable land; and, were sufficient encouragement given, or the people able, might be improved. Sea-weed or ware is the most common manure, and where it is scarce, a compost formed of ware and earth. The plough with one stilt, was the only plough generally used till within these few years, when it has given way to a wretched imitation of the Scots plough. Horses only are employed by farmers in the plough, and those of the small Strathnaver and Shetland breed. Oxen are little used, except in carts. Till within these seven years, there were no carts in these parishes but what belonged to
the

the minister, one heritor, and two farmers. Now there are about 40 in St Andrews alone. Most of them are drawn by an ox, yoked in the same way as a horse. Harrows of two or three bulls, with wooden teeth, were formerly used, but are now justly exploded in most farms, and those of two or three bulls, with short iron teeth, are used in their stead. Even these seem too light, and the people much neglect the brakeing their ground. The harrows are drawn side-ways by a train or side rope, (like that used in a plough), fastened at each end; which method of harrowing does great injustice to the land. Rotation of crops is here unknown. A few potatoes, with oats and bear sown alternately, have, for many years, occupied the same spot of ground. Rye-grass and clover, have been tried with success, by the minister and one heritor. They have also tried pease; but, owing to the frequent rains in the end of summer, and the beginning of harvest, have scarce got one good crop in seven. Turnips thrive tolerably well in these parishes, but are seldom used.

Hill and Common.—The hill and common round these parishes, is black and heathy, affording shelter for numbers of moor-fowl, and such other birds as delight in this sort of soil. No wood, of any kind, can be made to grow here, or in any part of Orkney, where it has been tried; and even the most common shrub cannot be raised without the greatest difficulty, though it is observable in many places, even under the flat sea-beech, where the storms or other accidents wash off the gravel or sand, that black peat-moss, stuck through with trees, seems to have been the original soil. Sometimes a whole tree has been found, and the smallest fibre so strong as to bear lifting. And in a peat-moss in Deerness, at the depth of four feet, roots of trees and hazel-ppts have been dug up, the nuts quite entire. This would seem

seem to indicate, that the country was not formerly as it is now.

Mines.—Small bits of lead are sometimes found in the parish of St Andrews; but there is little appearance of a mine, neither have the proprietors hitherto made any trial or search for one. A small holm, belonging to the parish, consists of a rock of so black a colour, that coals were expected near it. But though black stones, with a shining enamel, are here found, they have little of the nature of coal. For though they burn with a pretty clear flame while the enamel lasts, yet, when that is consumed, there remains only a heavy lump of stone.

Antiquities, &c.—There were formerly several gentlemen's seats in the parish, but they are all now in ruins. One of them, which belonged to the Coventries of Newark, was built by John Lord Kinclaven, Earl of Carrick. Another at Sandside, the seat of the Buchanans, has, on a chimney-piece, this remarkable inscription, "Who can dwell with
"everlasting burnings." On the top of the Mull or Burgh of Deerness, there is a small chapel, to which superstition has made even old age scramble, through a path in many places scarce six inches broad, and where a single false step led to certain death. The Corn-holm or Kirk-holm of Copenshay, (an island about half a mile long, and which is joined to Copenshay by a reef that is dry at half-tide), hath in it the ruins of a similar chapel, close by which is a deep well, built in the inside with large stones, and having a stair to reach the water when low. At some little distance, are the obscure foundations of small buildings, possibly the cells of ecclesiastics. In the southernmost head of the holm, are several ruins of circular buildings; and near the ruins a quarry of grey slate, of little use in building,
but

but curious on account of the many beautiful figures of seaweeds found between the plates. These figures seem as if elegantly painted in a bräis colour, and many of them so clear as to represent the finest fibre. Pictish houses and tumuli lie scattered over the whole face of the country. Near the end of the neck of land which joins St Andrews to Deerness, are the remains of a very large one, called by the country people Dingy's-how, or Duncan's-height; and between it and Deerness several hillocks of stones, seemingly ruins of buildings. The only other ruin that attracts notice, is placed on a small neck of land jutting out into a freshwater lake behind the minister's house. Its form is now semicircular. The wall is nine feet thick, in which, there seem to have been no apartments, or if there have, they are now filled with rubbish. Some pieces of wall have been found on the outside, but their use or form cannot be ascertained. Bones and shells of various kinds of animals, with peat-ashes, have been found in different apartments on the outside of the great wall. The minister, who considers modern inclosures, as more ornamental and useful in a country, than ancient ruins, has taken a great number of the stones of this building for inclosing his glebe.

Harbours.—Inganess and Deer Sound are excellent roadsteads, and belong to this parish. Inganess Bay is bounded on the west and south, by St Olay; and by Deerness on the east and south-east. The mouth of this bay, which is to the north, is guarded by Shapinsay; and as it is quite free from shoals, and the ground clean, being a mixture of strong clay and sand, it is a place of great safety. Its extreme length is two one-half miles; its breadth one mile; and the depth from twelve to two one-half fathoms. The best anchoring ground is about a mile from its summit, in six or six one-half fathoms, and nearest to the west side of the

the bay. Deer Sound lies nearly north-east and south-west; it is about five miles long from the Mull-head, where it begins to open; and from one to two and a half miles broad. Being much land-locked, and good clean sandy ground mixed with clay, the greatest fleets can lie safely in it. The proper anchoring ground is three miles and a half within the Mull-head, three-fourths of a mile within the point of Ness, and about one-half mile from each shore, in about four fathoms water. It is not much frequented, except by a few ships bound for Davis's Straits, and those that go to Iceland. They engage some of their men here. Some years ago, the Iceland fishing sloops amounted to about 20 or 30, mostly from England. They hired many of their fishing hands here, and on their return, bought from the people fresh provisions, feathers, stockings, gloves, linen, and white worsted stuffs, &c. This fishing gradually declined till about three years ago, when only four vessels came; and three of these were taken by the French, and the sailors carried prisoners to France, from whence many of them never returned. The year after, no British fishermen ventured there; and for these last two years, there has gone only one vessel.

Fish and Fowl.—Deerness is conveniently situated for fish. The country people go out in boats, and catch coal-fish in numbers; they get some cod, skate, haddocks, hallibut, dog-fish, and a very few ling. The people of St Andrews get skate in Stronsay Frith; and in Deer Sound, coal-fish, vast numbers of small cockles, and some oysters. On the sand and shores of Deerness are seen miriads of plovers, curlews, sea-larks, sea-pies, and a large grey bird with a hoarse cry, called by the inhabitants Horra Goose. These appear only in spring, in flocks of about 200, but do not continue long; and the lofty rocks of Copinsay are covered with wild-fowl of various kinds, without name, and without

without number. The *taiste*, or black guillemote, builds her nest in the cliffs; the kittewakes are by themselves, in the east end of the rock, the whole surface of which they render white, as that of the other end is mottled black and white, by the auks, the scouts, the cormorants, the shags, the gulls, &c. &c. which crowd upon every shelf. The people of this island get vast quantities of sea-fowls, eggs, and feathers; which last they sell for 9 d. *per* lib. The method of getting them is this: A boy, having a rope tied round his waist, is turned over the brink of the rock, quite out of sight of those who support him, by holding in their hands the end of the rope. The boy, as soon as he comes where the birds or eggs are, secures them; and, when loaded, informs those above, by signs which they mutually understand, how to direct the rope, when to lower, and when to pull up. He has a staff to defend him from the rugged points and shelves. A human being, suspended from the top of a cliff 50 fathoms high, is, to a stranger, a dreadful sight; but the *rockmen*, as they are properly and significantly called, walk on the very edges of the shelves, in the very face of the rock, with the greatest unconcern.

Horses, Cattle, &c.—There are few horses bred in these parishes, or in any part of Orkney, most of them being brought from Caithness and Strathnaver, when a year old, and are then called *staigs*. A *staig* costs from five to twelve guineas, and after being employed in the farm, and kept at a considerable expence for four or five years, is sold again to Caithness, at nearly the same price he was bought at. The number of horses in both parishes may be from 650 to 670. The black-cattle are of a small and very unhandsome breed, and are all reared in the parish. There may be of them from 900 to 1000. Sheep run wild on the moors and commons; they are small, and much neglected, and the number
of

of them difficult to be ascertained. Most families in the parish rear swine, which are generally of a black or reddish colour, and of a very diminutive size. They do great mischief to the fields with their snouts. Their number is not below 500.

Population.—The return to Dr Webster, in 1755, from St Andrews and Deerness, was 1650 souls. At present, there are in St Andrews 133 families, consisting of 675 persons; and in Deerness, (including Copinshay, an island of a mile long, inhabited by two families), there are 131 families, and 660 souls. The baptisms in St Andrews alone, for one year, are 30. Marriages 5. There are no registers of the burials kept in either parish; but, one year with another, there were about 8 burials yearly in St Andrews since the present incumbent was settled.

The population of both parishes, amounting to 1335, is considerably below the return made to Dr Webster, and also much below an enumeration made by Mr Scollay the last incumbent, in 1772, when the inhabitants of both parishes were 1515. The only cause that can be assigned for so great a decrease, is the continual drain of men to the navy, to the northern fisheries, and, above all, to Hudson's Bay. Before the year 1741, the Hudson Bay Company's servants were all taken from England, Ireland, or the Shetland isles. About 1741, or 1743, they began to get a few from Orkney, and finding them to be submissive and industrious, they now take most, or all, of their tradesfolk and contracted servants from this country. These, by the best accounts that can be collected from the most intelligent of the people who have been there, amount to about 1000 in all. Some of them are cut off by accidents every year; some of them are rendered useless by sickness; and many of them, when their indentures are up, return home. To

supply their places, about from 100 to 130 persons go annually to Hudson's Bay, from the Mainland and the other isles.

Servants Wages.—To the same causes, and that many of the inhabitants are employed in making kelp during the summer months, may be ascribed the great scarcity of servants, both in these parishes and all over the country. A man-servant has from two to four guineas yearly; and a woman-servant from 12 s. to 20 s.; and herds in proportion. All servants are maintained in the family. A day-labourer has from 6 d. to 1 s. *per* day, and when working in kelp, from 13 s. to 16 s. a-month, with four stones of meal. A woman-servant, at kelp, has 8 s. *per* month, and three stones of meal.

Church, &c.—There are two churches belonging to this charge, at which the minister officiates alternately. The church of St Andrews was rebuilt about 40 years ago, but is now in a ruinous and dangerous state; and though the present incumbent has repeatedly applied to the heritors to get it repaired, and both his presbytery and synod have, year after year, stated this grievance to the General Assembly, nothing has yet been done to lessen the danger. St Peter's church, in Deerness, is now roofless. In 1789, it was declared by tradesmen, on oath, too small, ruinous, and irreparable; a decret was passed by the presbytery for a new one; and this year, the heritors, after a long and unaccountable delay, have at last paid a part of their proportions for erecting it; so that, it is hoped, it will be built and finished next year. The church of Deerness, is, by land, eight and a half miles distant from the manse, with a bad road. The manse was built about 25 years ago, but so superficially executed, as to be scarce habitable when the present incumbent

cumbent was settled. After a litigious and expensive process, it was completely repaired about three years ago, and is now the best in the country. The glebe was, at the admission of the present incumbent, in value about L. 4 Sterling yearly. It is now considerably better, he having, at his own expence, inclosed the whole, and subdivided a part with sufficient stone-dikes, (copped with fail or turf), of from three one-half to five feet high. The expence of inclosing has been above 100 guineas. There is also a glebe in the parish of Deerness, which rents at between L. 4 and L. 5 Sterling. The stipend of this charge, by a decret of the Court of Session, in 1729, was fixed at L. 500 Scots in money, and 10 meils of oat-meal, communion-elements included. The late Mr Scollay obtained a decret of augmentation, for 8 meils 5 settings of oat-meal, 14 meils of malt, and 5 barrels of grease butter, in the year 1773; but it has never yet been localled, nor the arrears paid up. The whole, including the allowance for communion-elements, does not exceed L. 75 Sterling. Lord Dundas is patron of this, and most of the other charges in Orkney. The Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge have a school in Deerness, with a salary of L. 15. The schoolmaster, who is a sensible man, and successful in teaching, gets no fees from his scholars. He has brought up, in a decent manner, a family of 10 children.

Poor.—The only fund for the relief of the poor, is the Sabbath collections, which amount to about 30 s. yearly. No quarterly assessments are laid on in this parish, or in any part of the country. The number of poor on the list is 25.

Rent of the Parish.—The valued rent of the united parishes, according to the original valuation, taken in 1653, is
L. 4931,

L. 4931 : 15 : 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ Scots. And the real rent, as appears from a rental given in to the Court of Session in the year 1772, is 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels 50 lispunds and 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ merks of butter, 938 meils 3 fettings and 19 merks of malt, 35 meils 3 fettings and 18 merks of oat-meal, and L. 1312 : 6 : 10 $\frac{5}{8}$ Scots in money. The whole, at a moderate conversion, amounting to L. 5826, 6s. 11 $\frac{2}{3}$ d, Scots, or L. 485 : 10 : 7 Sterling. The yearly value of the great and small teinds may be about L. 100 Sterling, out of which the minister's stipend is paid. The lands in these parishes pay a very high superior duty; so that, were it not for the considerable quantity of kelp manufactured on the shores, many of the estates would be scarce worth holding.

Price of Provisions.—When Brand wrote his description of Orkney, about the beginning of this century, a cow was sold for L. 4 or L. 5 Scots; a sheep, for 14 s. Scots; a calf, for 5 s. Scots; and a lamb at the same price. Butter was then 2 d. Sterling the merk, (4 lib. Dutch, equal 3 merks), and a horse, L. 12 Scots. About 10 years ago, a good cow was sold for 30 s. Sterling; a sheep, for 2 s. 6 d.; a lamb, for 1 s. 2 d.; a calf, for 1 s. Butter, 4 d. *per* lib.; and a horse, for L. 4 or L. 5 Sterling; a goose, for 8 d.; a hen, for 3 d.; and eggs, at 2 d. *per* dozen. Now, cows are sold at from L. 3 to L. 4 Sterling; sheep, for 6 s.; lambs, or calves, for 2 s. 6 d. each. Butter, 7 d. *per* lib.; an ox, L. 5, 10 s.; a horse, L. 12; a goose, 1 s. 6 d.; a hen, 6 d.; and eggs, 3 d. *per* dozen. Beef, also, which within these six years sold for 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. is now 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. or 4 d. *per* lib; and all other things in proportion.

Bars to Improvement.—The principal bars to improvement, in this parish, and throughout the country, seem to be the shortness of the leases, most of them being only for
three

three years, and many from year to year; the want of a ready market for their grain; the poverty of the people, most of whom, on taking a farm, are not able to stock it without borrowing money; their keeping more cattle on their farms than they can well maintain; and, beyond all, the shortness and uncertainty of the seasons, and the want of inclosures and winter herding, owing to which, all the cattle, horses, sheep, swine, geese, &c. go at large for about nine months in the year. As soon as any one tenant cuts and brings in his corn, the whole country becomes at once a common, and all his neighbours must follow his example, or leave their crops, ripe and unripe, to be trodden down and destroyed. In the parish of Deerness, many of the tenants go to sea, and neglect their farms entirely.

Proprietors and People.—There are five gentlemen proprietors in St Andrews, and five in Deerness, none of whom reside in the parish, which is manifestly against the improvement of the land, and general advantage and comfort of the people. Besides these, there are six udelars in Deerness, persons whose property, in some parts of Orkney, is so small, as, if let to a tenant, would scarcely draw above a tub of bear, that is, about a firlof, of yearly rent. The inhabitants of both parishes, who are in general treated with great humanity by their landlords, are sober, regular, industrious, and being remarkably averse to drinking spiritous liquors, they are healthy, and live to the ordinary age of man. There are no instances of extraordinary longevity in either of the parishes.

NUMBER XIII.

PARISH OF FOGO.

(COUNTY OF BERWICK, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TEVIOT-
DALE, PRESBYTERY OF DUNSE.)

*By the Rev. JOHN TOD *.*

Name, Situation, and Extent.

THE origin of the name of this parish cannot now, perhaps, be fully ascertained. There are no places nor appearances in the neighbourhood from which the name seems to have been derived. The parish is situated in the county of Berwick, within the bounds of the presbytery of Dunse, and synod of Merse and Teviotdale; and is bounded by the parish of Greenlaw, on the west; Polwarth, on the north; Swinton, on the east; Eccles, on the south and south-west. The extent is not very great, being about six miles

* Some additional observations, by a friend to Statistical Inquiries, are interspersed.

miles in length, from east to west, and between three and four miles in breadth, from south to north. The figure of it is regular, being very little intersected by other parishes. It lies about 8 miles north of Coldstream; 4 south-west of Dunse; 10 north-east of Kelso; and about 15 from the sea-ports of Berwick and Eyemouth.

Rivers.—The river Blackadder, which runs through this parish, takes its rise out of some mossy grounds in the parish of Longformacus, (hence its proper name *Blackwater*, vulgarly pronounced Blackadder, or Blackatter). Soon after its rise, it is joined by a small rivulet from the parish of Westruther, about six miles north-west of Fogo. It enters the parish on the west end, and, running east, divides it nearly into two parts; from thence continuing its course about six miles, falls into the Whitadder, which discharges itself into the Tweed three miles above the town of Berwick. It abounds with a particular species of trout, much larger than the common burn trout, of an excellent flavour, and remarkably fat.

One peculiarity is observed of the Blackadder, that no salmon can live in it; and if any happen to enter, which they seldom do, even in the spawning season, they are always found dead, a little way up from the mouth of the river, although the Whitadder, from whence they come into it, abounds with them from the Tweed, and carries them many miles above the place where it meets with the Blackadder. Every other stream in this country, communicating with the Tweed, has the salmon in great plenty during the season. The above-mentioned source, (the mossy grounds of Longformacus), is commonly ascribed as the reason why that fish cannot frequent the river.

Soil.

Soil.—This is of two kinds; the first, a deep rich loam, comprehending all the lands near the river, and for a considerable tract of the parish; the other, a light or moorish loam, upon a tilly bed; this last is naturally wet, but produces good corn and grafs in ordinary seasons. The whole parish is arable, excepting a few acres on some of the banks of Blackadder, and some marshy or swampy grounds. But those places that will not admit the operations of the plough, are not unproductive of good pasture. The soil, in general, seems equally adapted for grafs, or tillage. A great part of the parish is inclosed, although a considerable quantity still lies open. Since the year 1780, above 150 acres of land, nearly waste, or approaching to it, have been brought into cultivation. About 1200 acres yet remain waste and uninclosed. Some of these are allowed thus to remain, chiefly on account of their bad quality, as being supposed incapable of repaying any expence that might be laid out on their improvement; but others are left in a state of nature, owing more to the negligence of the possessors than to any other cause.

Produce.—The produce of this parish is very valuable. The principal crops are oats and barley; some wheat and pease, and a considerable quantity of clover and rye-grass are sown, and succeed well. Large quantities of potatoes are raised, and constitute no small part of the food of the inhabitants. Turnips are a valuable crop here, as they answer the soil, and are extremely serviceable in feeding cattle during winter: they are likewise much used for the keeping stock. The course of cropping on a loam, incumbent on a retentive sub-soil, is usually the following: 1. Oats or barley. 2. Fallow. 3. Wheat. 4. Grass-seeds. 5. Pasture, commonly four years. The rotation on the moor-soil,
or

or gravel is generally turnip, barley, or oats; grafs from one to three years; oats.

A confiderable number of horfes are bred in the parifh, both for private ufe and fale. The black-cattle are of a large kind, and many are raifed as well for the market as for private ufe. The number of fheep now bred in the parifh is confiderable. Some of them are of the large Englifh kind, but in general they are of a middling fize; they produce a great quantity of wool, and of a good quality. It is a cuftom to buy in a number of ewes about the month of October, from Northumberland, and fome from the western parts of the county and Teviotdale, in the fpring, about March. Thefe, leaving the wool and lamb in fummer, are fed and fold off towards the autumn. Upon the whole, the produce is many times greater than what is neceffary for the confumption of the inhabitants. The largeft of the black-cattle fed in the parifh, and the heaviest of the fheep, are fent into England; the fmaller and lighter kinds are fold in the markets at home. Moft of the corn is difpofed of in the neighbouring markets, and what remains for fale is fent to Berwick and Eyemouth.

State of Property.—The heritors of the parifh, poffeffing properties above 20 acres, are Mortonhall, Harcarfe, Marchmont, and Caldra: none of whom are refident except the laft. The quantity of land occupied by thefe heritors cannot be exactly afcertained, as a great part of it has never been meafured; but, from the beft calculation that can at prefent be formed, it appears to be 4127 acres; of which, about 57 acres are under planting.—Number of tenants occupying above 20 acres is 15, of whom three are non-refident; but their farms are fuperintended by grieves or overfeers.

Rents.—The proven rental of the parish, in the late process of augmentation, was L. 2180.

Considerable improvements have of late been made on the property in the parish, as inclosing, liming, draining, &c. One of the heritors, and one or two of the principal farmers, have made not a few improvements, but by far the greatest part of them have been done by the tenants at large.

Roads.—In general, the parochial roads are not in the best repair; there are at least six miles of them quite in disrepair, and probably must continue in that state, as the funds at present are not sufficient to keep in repair the roads that have already been made.

Population.—The population of this parish has of late been greatly diminished. The vestiges of old houses are to be seen in every part of it. Several villages almost totally demolished, occasioned by the monopoly of farms, now so customary in this country. There are instances in this, and the neighbouring parishes, of one person possessing three, four, or six, very considerable farms, every one of which was formerly considered as sufficiently large for one person to occupy. The population, in 1755, according to Dr Webster's account, was 566 souls. It may be now stated at 450.

All the inhabitants are farmers and cottagers, with a few tradesmen, employed for the purposes of husbandry; as three smiths, and two joiners or wrights, with 45 labourers. There are no manufactures in the parish. But it is supplied with three corn-mills. Thrashing-machines are beginning to make their appearance, being introduced by one or two of the farmers. Since the year 1780, there have been re-built

built three farm or mansion-houses, and three farm-steadings, with mansion and cow-houses.

Church.—The walls and roof of the church were repaired in 1775. The ministers of this parish were, Messrs Methven, Methven, Pringle, Moodie, Home, and Home; which last was, in 1785, succeeded by Mr John Todd the present incumbent. The manse and offices were rebuilt in 1787. All the inhabitants are of the Established church, except a few Dissenters, mostly of the Relief; and these attend the parish church occasionally.

School.—The school-house is in good repair. The schoolmaster's salary is L. 7 : 1 : 1 Sterling.

Poor.—There are only four persons at present on the poor roll; some others, from accidental circumstances, often receive a temporary supply. The heritors and kirk-session generally meet three times in the year to make provision for the poor for the ensuing four months, when they admit on the roll, or increase the allowance of those whose necessities may seem to require it. The number of paupers, upon a ten years average, preceding the year 1784, is five: and upon a ten years average, preceding 1794, is seven. The funds for the maintenance of the poor arise from the weekly collections in the church, the interest of some mortgaged monies belonging to the poor of the parish; and, for what more is necessary, the heritors have recourse to the legal method, and assess themselves according to the proportion of their valued rent. The yearly assessments, upon the average of ten years, preceding 1784, were L. 11, 17 s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. Sterling: and the average of ten years, preceding 1794, were L. 23, 2 s. Sterling.

All

All the teinds in the parish are valued, from whence are paid the stipend, which was lately augmented, the school salary, and the sums necessary for repairing the church, manse, offices, and school-house. The stipend is now fixed at L. 100 *per annum*; the old stipend was L. 77, 10 s.; consequently there has been an augmentation of L. 22, 10 s.

Antiquities.—The only mark of antiquity found in this parish is at a village called Chesters, which has all the appearance of an old Roman encampment; but now very much defaced.

There is an ancient bridge over the Blackadder, at Fogo, of great advantage to the neighbourhood, as in the winter season the water frequently cannot be forded. This bridge is kept in repair by the county, and is the only one in the parish.

Disadvantages.—This place and neighbourhood labour under the disadvantage of being at a distance from coal, the only fuel used in the parish. It is brought from Northumberland, at the distance of about 12 miles. Lime is very scarce and dear. To these circumstances, unfavourable for agriculture, and the comfort of the people, may be added the thirlage to mills.

NUMBER XIV.

PARISH OF TINGWALL,

(COUNTY OF ORKNEY AND SHETLAND, SYNOD OF ORKNEY, AND PRESBYTERY OF SHETLAND.)

Drawn up from the Communications of the late Rev. Mr WILLIAM MITCHELL, Minister of the Parish.*

Name, Situation, and Extent.

THIS parish is known by the name of Tingwall, but comprehends in it the united parishes of Tingwall, Whiteness, and Weisdale. All these names are evidently of Norwegian or Danish extraction, languages at present unknown in these islands. It is therefore impossible for any native or inhabitant of Shetland to give any accurate explanation of them. It is probable, however, that Whiteness means

* Some parts of Mr Mitchell's communications were unfortunately lost in their way from Shetland, and by his death, the deficient information could not be replaced.

means the White Promontory. It is singular, indeed, that in almost all languages, the words nefs, nofs, nose, have almost the same meaning. These united parishes are situated in the Mainland of Shetland, and not far from Lerwick the capital. The parish is about ten miles in length, and in some places five in breadth, besides some detached islands, inhabited by fishermen. Some of these islands are four miles distant from the main parish, from which they are separated by a dangerous sea.

Population.—By the return to Dr Webster, in 1755, the population of the united parishes amounted to 1412, of all ages. At present there are 352 families, and the number of inhabitants is 1786; of which 1431 are examinable persons. The population has therefore increased to the amount of 374 souls.

Churches.—There are two places of public worship, at the distance of three miles from each other, which are regularly attended by the minister, and by the people in their respective neighbourhoods. It cannot be expected, that in so remote a district, two churches in one parish could be remarkable for their construction.

Manse.—The manse is situated on the most frequented road in Shetland, being a thorough-fare between the town of Lerwick and all the western parts of Shetland, and the town of Scalloway and all the northern parts. It is the only manse or gentleman's house in the country that is not situated near the sea, and, consequently, it wants all the advantages of fish and fishing-boats, of such essential consequence in so northern a situation. This, with the scarcity of sheep-pasture in the neighbourhood, is a great loss and inconvenience to the minister.

Stipend.

Stipend.—This remote parish is celebrated in the Ecclesiastical Annals of Scotland, for its process of augmentation, on the decision of which, in a great measure, depended the income of the ministers of Scotland. The question was very briskly litigated before the Court of Session, and was afterwards appealed to the House of Lords, by whom it was decided favourably to the wishes of the clergy; in consequence of which, the stipend was finally modified at L. 578, 16s. Scotch of money, and 108 lisponds of butter, with L. 40 Scotch for communion-elements. Each lispond of butter is computed at 30 lb. consequently, in all, there are 3240 lib. of butter payable to the minister. The usual conversion is at the rate of L. 4, 16s. Scots *per* lispond.

State of Property.—The best account of the state of property in this district, is to be found in the following proven rental, as ascertained in 1791, in the course of the process of augmentation.

SCHEME

**SCHEME of the PROVEN RENTAL of the United Parishes
of Tingwall, Whitenefs, and Weisdale, in Shetland,
anno 1791.**

By the rental, where the hail heritors are holden as confest, the rent-stock of their respective lands, within the parish, amount to the particular sums of money following, viz.

	Scots money	L.	s.	d.
The rent, stock, and teind, of the 284 merks of land belonging to Sir Thomas Dundas of Kerse,	-	-	1079	4 0
The rent, &c. of the 569 merks of land belonging formerly to the heirs of Sir John Mitchell, and now to Mrs Janet Sinclair, James Linclater, Andrew Bolt, Thomas Bolt, James Rofs, Francis Weddel, George Sutherland, Arthur Nicolson, Peter Innes, James Scott, Robert Rofs, James Cheyne, and Gilbert Paterfon,	-	-	2162	4 0
_____ of the 167½ merks belonging to Peter Innes of Fracafeld,	-	-	636	10 0
_____ of the 152½ merks belonging to James Scott of Scalloway,	-	-	587	2 0
_____ of the 137¼ merks belonging to Arthur Nicolson, of Lochend,	-	-	521	11 0
_____ of the 122½ merks belonging to John Leslie of Uftanefs, now to his daughters,	-	-	465	10 0
_____ of the 28½ merks belonging to James Goodlad of Fitch, now to Gilbert Goodlad,	-	-	108	6 0
_____ of the 16 merks belonging to Gideon Gifford of Bufta,	-	-	60	16 0
_____ of the 14 merks belonging to James Malcolmson, writer in Lerwick, now to James Malcolmson his son,	-	-	53	4 0
_____ of the 12 merks belonging to James Cheyne of Tanwick,	-	-	45	12 0
_____ of the 11½ merks belonging to Catharine Paterfon,	-	-	43	14 0
_____ of the 11 merks belonging to Magnus Fea, merchant in Lerwick,	-	-	41	16 0
_____ of the 10½ merks belonging to Thomas Jamieson, portioner of Veensgirth,	-	-	39	18 0
_____ of the 10 merks belonging to John Anderson, portioner of Stobieground,	-	-	38	0 0
			Carried forward, L.	5883 7 0

	Scots money, L.	s.	d.
Brought forward, L.	5883	7	0
The rent, &c. of the $9\frac{1}{4}$ merks belonging to Margaret Bruce, alias Scollay,	35	3	0
— of the 9 merks belonging to John Bruce Stew- art of Symbester,	34	4	0
— of the 9 merks belonging to Magnus, writer in Lerwick,	34	4	0
— of the $7\frac{1}{2}$ merks belonging to James James, portioner of Veenfirth,	28	10	0
— of the 6 merks belonging to Katharine Tait in Veenfirth,	22	16	0
— of the 5 merks belonging to Thomas Bolt, mer- chant in Lerwick,	19	0	0
— of the 4 merks belonging to William Mouat of Garth,	15	4	0
— of the 3 merks belonging to Malcolm Haleron of Fitchs,	11	8	0
— of the 3 merks belonging to John Irvine, of Easter Howl,	11	8	0
— of the 3 merks belonging to Janet Tait, por- tioner of Deal,	11	8	0
— of the 2 merks belonging to Peter Mouat, por- tioner of Hammerland,	7	12	0
— of the 2 merks belonging to Henry Chappie, portioner of Heogen, now Robert Chappie,	7	12	0
— of the two merks belonging to Barbara Wil- liamson, portioner of Hogesta,	7	12	0
— of the 2 merks belonging to Jean Williamson and Thomas Smith her husband,	7	12	0
— of the $1\frac{1}{2}$ merk belonging to Jacob Tait in Breivick,	5	14	0
Poultry, one hen at 4 s. Scots <i>per</i> merk of land,	323	6	0
The fishing profits paid by the tenants to the landlords,	1200	0	0
Corn teind <i>per</i> composition of 1616 $\frac{1}{2}$ merks of land,	533	6	0
Bon teind butter 108 lisponds 20 merks, at L. 4, 16 s. Scots <i>per</i> lispond,	522	8	0
Lamb teind, 242 lambs, at L. 1, 10 s. each lamb of teind, or 1 lamb, at 3 merks of wool,	363	0	0
Boat teind, at 6 s. said money, <i>per</i> man, in 6 or 4 oared boats,	88	4	0
Calf teind, 56 calves, at 12 s. said money each,	33	12	0
	L. 9206	10	0

The fifth part whereof for teind, parsonage, and vicarage, is L. 1841 6 0

Inns.—There is no public-house in the whole parish where any person of distinction can have either entertainment or lodging. But the want is abundantly made up by the hospitality of the inhabitants.

Inoculation.—The late incumbent, Mr William Mitchell, finding that the common people declined to inoculate their children, in consequence of the expence attending it when a regular surgeon was employed, resolved to undertake it himself, without charging them any thing, and carried it on with great success, having inoculated no less a number than 950, between the years 1774 and 1793. As it requires no great skill or dexterity, it is extremely desirable that his brethren, in other remote parts of the country, would imitate so laudable an example. Young students of divinity might easily acquire this branch of the medical art, when attending the different universities; and midwives, when taught the principles of their profession, might also easily be taught how to inoculate.

Commerce.—It is impossible to give the value of the articles exported from, or imported into, this district; and indeed all the parishes in Shetland are so interwoven with each other, that the particular export and import of any one parish separately, could not be given, or even guessed at, with any tolerable accuracy.

Shipwrecks.—It is well known that numbers of vessels are lost on the shores of the Orkney and Shetland islands, and many upon the coasts of this parish, in a great measure owing to the want of proper charts and directions. The late Mr Mitchell had formed a design of giving to the public an account of the latitude and longitude of all the headlands, and marks to know them; together with directions for

for sailing into all the principal harbours in the island. The following paper was drawn up as a specimen of that work. It would have been an useful publication to mariners, but it is believed that the author unfortunately died before he had completed it.

Directions for Sailing into the Harbour of Scalloway in Shetland, which lies in $60^{\circ} 9'$ North Latitude, and $31'$ of a Degree West Longitude.

Mariners, sailing from the southward, pass Fair Isle, which lies in the middle of the passage between the Orkney and Shetland islands, in north latitude $59^{\circ} 24'$, west longitude $41'$ of a degree; then they come up to Fitful-Head, the highest land on the south end of the Main island of Shetland, lying in $59^{\circ} 48'$ north latitude, $37'$ west longitude, which they keep on the starboard side, and sail along the coast, about 11 miles, when they arrive at a little inhabited isle called Havra. Here they have choice of two entries, called the South and the West entries to this harbour. In pursuing the south entry, they put the isle of Havra on the larboard side, and the high hills called Clift Hills on the starboard side; then sail through the middle of Clift Sound, steering on the Kirk of Tingwall. If the weather is clear, they will see Fair Isle a-stern. When they come to the north-east corner of the isle of Trondra, where they turn round westerly into this harbour, they keep near the east side, where the water is deepest, though only three fathoms; but the ship gets no hurt though she should touch the ground. When they have the west entry open, then they steer to the west side of the harbour, under the bill of Westshore, where they drop anchor, in five fathom water, and the best ground.

To sail into the harbour by the west entry, they put the fore-mentioned isle of Havra on the starboard side, and pass
along

along the back of the isle of Burra, until they arrive at a little inhabited isle called Oxna *, where they get sight of the castle of Scalloway, about four miles from the harbour, and steer on it through the middle of the entry, keeping the isles of Oxna and Papa, the Green Holm, a small uninhabited isle, with green grass on the top, and the hill of Westshore, all on the larboard side; and the isles of Burra and Trondra on the starboard side, till they see all the houses of Scalloway near the shape of a half-moon; and then turn up, under the hill of the Westshore, and drop anchor as before.

Directions for Sailing into the Harbours of Tingwall Parish, on the East side of the Coast of Shetland.

Mariners, sailing northward, and coming up to Noss-Head, a high rock, the eastmost point on the coast, lying in $60^{\circ} 11'$ north latitude, $21'$ west longitude, and wanting a shelter from hard gales of easterly wind, may turn round the north-east corner of the land, and steer westerly; they will find a harbour on the inside of the land, called the isle of Bressay; or steer on until they arrive at a bit rocky ground, with green grass on the top, called a Green Holm, and two high rocks, standing up like monuments, near one another, called the Brethren, which they may pass on any side they please, and then they see the point of Hackness right a-head, and Deal's Voe, or a frith, opens on the larboard side, which is in Tingwall parish, and into which they may steer through the middle, and cast anchor. But if they sail on towards the said point of Hackness, which lies in $60^{\circ} 16'$ north latitude,

* At Oxna, they may sail northward through any of the openings between the small isles and rocks, where they meet with nothing but seen dangers, where they will find anchoring ground in any of the voes or friths which they see before them, and on both sides.

itude, 28' west longitude, they must beware of a rock called Unicorn, that lies two miles in east-by-north direction off from that point; the top of which rock is seen at low-water, or observed by the sea breaking over it. This rock, it is said, got its name from the Unicorn, a ship of war, sent out in pursuit of Bothwell, the pilot of whose ship failed close by this rock, and the Unicorn, in chace, was broke to pieces upon it, by which accident he escaped to Norway. After turning the point of Hackness, the Voe, or Frith of Laxforth, in Tingwall parish, opens on the larboard side, through the middle of which they may steer, and cast anchor; or, turning the point opposite to Hackness, called the Ness of Wadbister, they may anchor there, under the land; or, which is still safer, they could run, in about a north-west course, to the head of Catfrith Voe or Frith, where they could anchor, or run a ship a-ground without hurt *.

* The courses by the compass are not here set down, because mariners, having the latitude and longitude of the places, can direct them; besides, they are of little use within sight of land.

NUM.

NUMBER XV.

PARISH OF ARDNAMURCHAN,

(COUNTIES OF ARGYLE AND INVERNESS, SYNOD OF ARGYLE, AND PRESBYTERY OF MULL.)

By the Rev. Mr. ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, Minister.

Origin of the Name, &c.

AIRD-NĀ-MŌR-CHUAN, a headland well known to mariners, gives name to a large peninsula, and thence to the parish. It signifies, in the Gaelic language, Point* of

* Scarce any local descriptive name occurs so frequently in Scotland, particularly on the sea-coasts, as Aird, commonly wrote, and confounded with, Ard, high, a height. Applied to land, Aird signifies a point or angle, both sides of which are bounded by water. A thousand instances might be specified, as Aird-nan-saor, on which Fort George stands, &c. In this parish, Aird-nish is a peninsula, three miles long; and there are many lesser points, called Aird, one of which is so low, as to be overflowed by high tides.—
(N. B. Ancient names, accurately explained, may sometimes elucidate characters, &c.)

of the Great Seas, appositely to its prominent situation amid the larger Hebrides, which, with the peninsula, apparently divide the ocean into several seas. From a record in the Teind-Office, it appears, that in the year 1630, this peninsula was a separate parish, called Kilchoan, after the church of that name dedicated to St Coän; and the remaining districts of the present parish of Ardnamurchan formed a second parish, under the name of Island Finan, a beautiful little island in Loch Sheil, then the residence of the minister, and site of the principal church, dedicated to St Finan; but in more ancient times, probably, the two most northern districts were a third parish, named Kilmaria, after the church, the walls of which remain at Keppoch in Arasaig, dedicated to the Virgin Mary; and it will appear, that each of the three was of large extent.

Situation and Extent.—The Ru, *i. e.* the extremity of the peninsula above mentioned, which is the south-west corner of the parish, is remarkable as the most western point of the mainland of Great Britain, and the most noted headland from Cape Wrath to the Moil of Kintyre, between which it is centrically situated*. The parish is, on the south,

* It is to be regretted, our best maps and charts are so inaccurate in respect to this remarkable headland, and still more so, as to the coast to the north thereof, at least in this parish. Though some attention has been paid to our own shores, in the present reign chiefly, it has cost the public infinitely more to explore the Antipodes. The true place and figure of not one, perhaps, of the Hebrides, is so well ascertained and known as those of O-why-hee or O-ta-heite. The best delineation that has been published, of any part of this or of the neighbouring parishes, is Bruce's map of the Parish and Barony of Ardnamurchan, in 1733, published by Sir A. Murray, that has been copied by Dorret. It lays down the Point of Ardnamurchan in latitude $56^{\circ} 58'$ north, and longitude $6^{\circ} 13'$ west. (Sea charts in present use make the longitude $6^{\circ} 30'$). A manuscript map of the same, in the book after-mentioned, makes the

south, separated from Morvern by the serpentine course of Loch Sunart, and from Mull, by the north end of the sound of that island. It is bounded, on the west, by the Atlantic, which, penetrating deeply, forms on this side a large bay, and five branches, resembling the hand and fingers; on the north, by Loch Mor'ir, and the river issuing from it, separating this parish from the district of north Mor'ir in Glenelg parish; and, on the east, by a range of ten mountains, over whose numerous summits the boundary line passes, by so many alternate ascents and descents, conterminous with the districts of Ardgower, Lochiel, and Locharkaig, parish of Kilmalie, and district of Kingerloch, in that of Lismore and Appin. It is also contiguous to Morvern parish for about two miles, near the head of Loch Sunart, on the south. Within these limits are comprehended five several districts, or countries, as they are here called. 1st, Ardnamurchan Proper, or parish of Kilchoan, 16 miles in length, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ in mean breadth: 2^d, Sunart, 12 miles by 6: 3^d, Moidart, 18 miles by 7: 4th, Arasaig, 16 miles by 6: And, 5th, South Mor'ir, 14 miles by 4. The two first are in Argyleshire, and, joining at Tarbert a narrow pass of two miles from Salen,

the latitude of Mingary Castle, which lies six miles east from the point, $56^{\circ} 56'$. *Vide* Sir Alexander Murray of Stanhope's book, in the Advocates Library, Edinburgh, "The Interests of Great Britain Considered," &c. in which are many interesting particulars regarding this country, and the Highlands at large, anno 1740. The manuscript map is in all respects inferior, except in lengthening the country by three miles. A late survey, not published, varies greatly from both. Mackenzie's charts, though in need of amendment, are extremely useful in pointing out the tract of coasting navigation; but it belongs not to such draughts to delineate the internal parts; and even the outline is often, as in this parish, represented with the distortions appearing to the eye at sea, and according to the dangers to be avoided; it being a rule to shorten the distances from one headland to another, lest vessels, in the dark, overshoot their reckoning. Hence, with respect to the land, some parts are over-extended, and others no less abridged.

Salen, a creek of Loch Sunart, to the west end of Loch Sheil, extend, in one range, from east to west; the others, in Inverness-shire, lie parallel to each other and to Sunart, from which Moidart is separated by the above lake; the river Sheil, being the boundary between the north-east corner of Ardnamurchan, and south-west of Moidart, for about three miles, to its fall into the sea at Castle Tioram. Straight lines drawn between the extreme points, would form the parish into a figure of four unequal sides, the south being the longest, the north shortest, and the west exceeding the east side. From the above calculations, the best that, for want of surveys of half the parish, could be made, it may be reduced to a square of something more than 20 English miles of land and water, extending to 273,280 acres; of which, it is believed, above 200,000 are land.

Surface, Soil, &c.—Of so large a space, a minute description will not be expected. It consists, principally, of mountains, hills, and high moors, in general more rugged and precipitous than of great elevation; the highest, being only of the third or fourth rate among the Highland mountains, *i. e.* probably not exceeding, in any instance, 1000 yards; a height which four or five of them seem to approach. There are certainly many, in all the gradations, from 400 to 900 yards. They are in general pointed at top, though none can be called regular cones*.

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* The following measurements, of some of the most remarkable hills in Sunart, were made for, and obligingly communicated by, Sir James Riddell, Baronet.

Beinn Reispoll,	- -	887 yards.
Scurr Dhonuil,	- -	910
Scurr Choinich,	- -	788
Creach-bheinn,	- -	813
Glaishchoiren-hill,	- -	640

STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE PARISH OF ARDNAMURCHAN, COMPREHENDING

V DISTRICTS, viz.	1. Ardnamurchan Proper, or Parish of Kilchöan.	2. Sunart. or Parish of Island Finan.	3. Moidart.	4. Arasaig, and 5. South Mor'ir, or Parish of Kilmaria.	Total.
Note—A blank in any of the columns, shews that no return was procured under that head; a cypher, that there were none of that denomination.	In Argyleshire.		In Inverness-shire.		
Extreme length, computed in English miles, -	21	16	27	24	45*
Extreme breadth ditto, -	7	8	10	11	33†
No. of souls, -	1514	1038	712	1278	4542
— males, -	712	506	329	579	2126
— females, -	802	532	383	699	2416
— persons under 10 yrs, -	439	216	181	374	1210
— 20 —	307		156	247	
— 30 —	284		99		
— 40 —	183		109		
— 50 —	98		77	43‡	
— 60 —	101		45		
— 70 —	61		30	182	
— 80 —	25		12	33	
— 90 —	12		3	10	
— 100 —	4		0	1	
— families, -	284§	186	132	243	845
Average persons in each family, -	nearly 5¼	above 5½	above 5½	above 5¼	above 5½
Population, an. 1723, from Sir A. Murray, -	947	404			
Ditto, 1760, reported by Rev. Drs Hyndman and Dick, visitors of the Highlands by order of the General Assembly, -	1276	443			
Ditto, 1765, by Rev. Dr Walker, to ditto, -	Ard. & Sunart, 1899		738	864	3501
Increase since 1765 ¶, -	653		0	414	1041
Decrease ditto, -	0		26**	0	0

Married

* N. B. The total length is computed, on one diagonal line, crossing all the districts by the travelling tract.

† The population of the first column was taken June 1795; of the second, September 1794; of the third, May 1793; and of the fourth, Spring 1795.

‡ This number is greater than the preceding, on account, probably, of the absence of soldiers, &c.

§ Of these, 34 consist of only 56 persons.

¶ N. B. Dr Webster's population of this parish appears not to have been from actual enumeration, and to have been greatly exaggerated.

** The population of Moidart is said, on good authority, to have been, eight years ago, above 1200, and diminished, as above, by emigration to America.

V DISTRICTS, viz.	1. Ardnamurchan Proper, or Parish of Kilchoan.	2. Sunart. or Parish of Island Finan.	3. Moidart.	4. Arasaig, and 5. South Mor'ir, or Parish of Kilmaria.	Total.
Note—A blank in any of the columns, shews that no return was procured under that head; a cypher, that there were none of that denomination.	In Argyleshire.	In Inverness-shire.			
Married couples living in 1795, - - -	238	131*			
Number of children, dead and alive †, born to married persons, widowers and widows, living in 1795, - - -	1532				
Of whom were males, - - -	804				
females, - - -	728				
Average children from each marriage, - - -	6	6	6	6	6
Of whom died in infancy, - - -	2	2	2	2	2
Twins born annually, - - -					pairs 2
Unmarried men, above 50 years, - - -	0	2	1	2	5
Unmarried women, above 45 years, - - -	12	19	3		
Widowers, - - -	7	16	6		
Widows, - - -	60	51	14		
Members of Established Church, - - -	1382	979	17	74	2452
Roman Catholics, - - -	116	41	693	1203	2053
Episcopalians, - - -	16	18	2	1	37
Clergymen, Established Church, - - -	1	1	0	1	3
Ditto Roman Catholics, - - -	0	0	3	2	5
Males born in other Highland parishes, - - -	132	Male and female } 170			
Females, ditto, - - -	116		13		
Persons born in England and Wales, - - -	0	11	0	0	11
Ditto in Ireland, - - -	0	0	2	2	4
Proprietors residing, - - -	0	0	0	1	1
non-residing, - - -					
Farmers above L. 50, - - -	Ardna. and 7	Sunart 1	3	4	8†
		123	6	7	32
					Farmers

* A Gentlewoman of Moidart, near 70, has had 22 children; another, of 35 years, has nursed ten sons in succession, all still in life.

† The children of several families and individuals are not included; the distinction of males and females not having been taken down.

‡ Ardnamurchan and Sunart belong to Sir James Riddell, Baronet; great part of Moidart, and all Arasaig, belong to Mr Macdonald of Clanranald.

V DISTRICTS, viz.	1. Ardnachurchan Proper, or Parish of Kilchöan.	2. Sunart. or Parish of Island Finan.	3. Moidart.	4. Arasaig, and 5. South Mor'ir, or Parish of Kilmaria.	Total.
Note—A blank in any of the columns, shews that no return was procured under that head; a cypher, that there were none of that denomination	In Argyleshire.	In Inverness-shire.			
Farmers under L. 50,	119	25	60*	64*	300
Drovers (included with farmers of L. 50.)	2	0	0	1	3
Merchants,	0	0	1	1	2
Petty shopkeepers,	3	2	1	3	9
Petty stage or whisky-house keepers †,	4	1	1	3	9
Smiths,	1	4	1	1	7
Masons and cowans, (i. e. builders of stone without mortar),	3	5	0	1	9
House and boat carpenters,	8	5	2	4	19
Weavers,	17	13	5	8	43
Weaveresses,	24	1	8	14	47
Ditto of Highland garters,	2	0	0	0	2
Shoe and brogue makers,	1	2	0	2	5
Tailors,	10	8	5	12	35
Millers,	3	1	1	1	6
Gardener,	0	1	0	0	1
Distiller of whisky,	1	0	0	0	1
Male farm servants,	33	24	0	0	57
Female ditto,	45	35	0	0	80
Miners,	0	46	0	0	46
Labourers in mines, besides many women and children occasionally,	0	0	0	0	0
Seamen in the five small vessels,	0	30	0	0	30
Ditto in the navy this war,	8	3	6	6	15
Soldiers in the army this war,	40	16	20*	50	126
Emigrants to America, an. 1790 and 1791, by whole families, and of all ages,	84	40	250	322	696
Families, exclusive of individuals, removed to the Low Country since 1780,	9			11	
					Individuals

* These numbers computed.

† N. B. All of these, except, perhaps, one at Strontian, ought to be exempted from taxes, being extremely necessary to the public, and unable to afford the duty on public-houses.

V DISTRICTS, viz.	1. Ardnamurchan Proper, or Parish of Kilchöan.	2. Sunart. or Parish of Island Finan.	3. Moidart.	4. Arasaig, and 5. South Mor'ir, or Parish of Kilmaria	Total.
Note—A blank in any of the columns, shews that no return was procured under that head; a cypher, that there were none of that denomination.	In Argyleshire.		In Inverness-shire.		
Individuals to ditto, and to the neighbouring parishes since 1780,	54			91	
Schoolmasters and schools, Seminary taught by and for Roman Catholic clergy,	1	1	0	1	3
Sewing mistrefs,	0	0	1	0	1
Private teachers,	0	1	0	0	1
Young persons taught English, writing, &c.	1	1	1	1	4
Ditto Latin,	40	79		35	
— at the university,	3	0	8	0	11
Practitioners of medicine or law,	1	1	0	0	2
Number of poor,	0	0	0	0	0
Capital of their funds,	49	50	20*	50	169
Annual allowance to each from collections and fines,	L. 26 0 0	0†	0	0	L. 26
Slated houses built before 1780,	L. 0 4 4†	L. 0 4 6			
Ditto built since 1780,	1	5	2§	3	11
Cottages built or cast with lime,	1	4	4	8	17
Small boats,	5	7	5	10	27
Small vessels,	57	24	37	65	183
Querns or hand-mills,	0	1	2	2	5
Carts,	2	8			
Ploughs,	4	9	3	4	20
	26	9	3	4	42
					Number

* Computed.

† Sir James Riddell usually gives from L. 15 to L. 20 annually to the poor of his own estate, and as much more to individual pensioners. He has generously promised a perpetual fund of L. 400.

‡ Average of seven years.

|| Mingary Castle, now Castle Riddell, ruinous,

§ These were, Castle Tioram, in ruins, since it was burnt anno 1715; and the House of Kinlochmoidart, destroyed by the troops in 1746.

¶ Including Mor'ir House, which, with every hut they could discover, was burnt by the troops in 1746; who also plundered or destroyed almost all the stock of cattle, &c.

V DISTRICTS, viz.	1. Ardnamurchan Proper, or Parish of Kilchoan.	2. Sunart. or Parish of Island Finan.	3. Moidart.	4. Aralaig, and 5. South Mor'ir, or Parish of Kilmaria.	Total.
Note—A blank in any of the columns, shews that no re- turn was procured under that head; a cypher, that there were none of that denomination.	In Argyleshire.		In Inverness-shire.		
Number of acres,	53,700*	47,344	80,640	97,280	
Valued rent †,	L. 182 8 11	L. 87 8 5	Moid. & Ar. L. 100 0 0	South Mor. L. 33 19 1	Sterling. L. 403 16 5
Gross rent ascer- tained by the Court of Teinds, 1750,	321 9 0	206 0 4½	Moidart. 230 2 0½	Ar. & Mor. 258 16 5	1016 7 9
Gross rent, anno 1792,	2709 9 7	1945 11 3	1500 0 0	1331 0 0	7486 0 10
Besides sales of woods annually,	233 17 0	365 7 0	45 0 0	66 0 0	700 4 0
Rent spent in the parish,	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	250 0 0	250 0 0
Value of exports (chiefly to Clyde and Liverpool),	486 7 0	4882 17 0	587 10 0	940 15 0	6897 9 0
Imports,	750 0 0	1600 0 0	550 0 0	850 0 0	3750 0 0
Stock.	No. Value. L. s.	No. Value. L.	No. Val. L.	No. Val. L.	No. Value. L. s.
Draught horses,	104 832 0	48 408	24 144	91 546	400 2848 0
Inferior ditto,	117 702 0	36 216			
Cattle,	3108 12432 0	1014 4563	1151 3453	2273 6819	7546 27267 0
Sheep, better sort,	3500 2100 0	1440 864 0	1175 705 0	1570 942 0	15350 27210 0
Ditto inferior,	1010 604 16		1000 300		904 16
Goats,			800 240	1500 450	2300 690 0
Swine,	20 10 0	30 15			50 25 0
Total value of stock,	L. 16680 0	L. 13842	L. 11187	L. 17235	L. 58944 0
					Annual

* From Sir Alexander Murray's Anatomy of Ardnamurchan, &c.—N. B. Erroneously summed up in the original.

† That of the 1st and 2d columns, was taken anno 1751; of the 3d and 4th, anno 1629.

V DISTRICTS, viz.	1. Ardnamurchan Proper, or Parish of Kilchoan.	2. Sunart. or Parish of Island Finan.	3. Moidart	4. Arasaig, & 5. South Mor'ir, or Parish of Kilmaria.	Total.
Note—A blank in any of the columns, shews that no return was procured under that head; a cypher, that there were none of that denomina- tion.	In Argyleshire.	In Invernessshire.			
Annual Produce,	Barls. val. L.	Barls. val. L.	Barls. val. L.	Barls. val. L.	Barrels. Value.
Potatoes, -	7500—750	4800—480	4000—400	5500—550	21300, L. 2130
Oats with fodder, Bear, per boll of 5 firlots, Linlithgow measure, -	Bolls. 1600—800 400—400 No.	Bolls. 220—110 20—20 No.	Bolls. 300—150 45—45 No.	Bolls. 500—250 67—67 No.	21300, Bolls. 2620 532 No.
Calves, -	1036 1036	334—334	383—383	757—757	2510 2510
Lambs, better,	1166—291	4800—1200	3916—979	5233—1308	15115 3778
Ditto inferior,	672—84	0 0 0	333—41		1005 125
Foals, -	50—100	20—40	12—24	50—75	132 239
Pasture, at L. 1, 10s. per horse, L. 1 per cow, 2s. per sheep, 1 s. 6 d. inferior	L. s.	L. s.	L. s.	L. s.	L. s. d.
ditto, 1 s. per goat,	3940 14	2580 0	2477 0	4054 10	13,052 4 0
Annual produce of sea fisheries, com- puted, -	60 0	60 0	50 0	70 0	240 0 0
Ditto of gardens,	10 0	5 0	3 0	10 0	28 0 0
Flax-seed sown an- nually,	Hogshds. 2	Hogshd. 1	very little.	ditto,	
Grey field pease, do.	a few pecks	0	0	0	
Clover and rye-grass very little, -	0	0	0	0	
Field turnip or cab- bage, none,	0	0	0	0	0
Total annual pro- duce,	L 7471 0	4837 0	4552 0	6941 0	23,702 4 0
Minister's stipend, per decret of the Court of Teinds, 1750, -					83 6 8
Assistant's, do, do,					27 15 6 ² / ₃
A legal glebe, de- signed anno 1782, i.e. 4 ¹ / ₂ acres arable	16 acres, on the side of a rocky hill.				
ground, with pas- ture for 2 cows and 1 horse; the whole computed at -					

V DISTRICTS, viz.	1. Ardnamurchan Proper, or Parish of Kilchoan.	2. Sunart.	3. Moidart or Parish of Island Finan.	4. Arasaig, and 5. South Mor'ir, or Parish of Kilmaria.	
Note—A blank in any of the columns, shews that no return was procured under that head; a cypher, that there were none of that denomination.	In Argyleshire.		In Inverness-shire.		Total.
Royal bounty to preachers,		L. 35 0 0		L. 17 0 0	L. 52 0 0
Parochial school salary,	L. 16 13 4				16 13 4
Society for Christian Knowledge allow for two schools,	0	12 10 0	0	16 0 0	28 10 0
Ditto to a sewing mistress,	0	2 0 0	0	0	2 0 0
Perquisites of the masters very inconsiderable, if paid,					
Produce (annual) of mines,	0	4000 0 0	0	0	4000 0 0
Neat annual profit to Government of one post-office at Strontian,	0	40 0 0	0	0	40 0 0
Annual road-money levied by act of Parliament, being 1 s. in the pound valued rent	9 2 0	4 7 0			

N. B. A considerable sum is levied on the farms, in name of statute-labour, viz. 2 s. a-year for each working man on the grounds, now, or when the last leases were granted.

NUMBER XVI.

PARISH OF URQUHART AND GLENMORISTON,
RISTON,

(COUNTY OF INVERNESS, SYNOD OF GLENELG, AND
PRESBYTERY OF ABERTARF.)

Boundaries, Extent, &c.

THIS parish is bounded, on the north, by the parishes of Inverness, Kirkhill, and Kiltarlity; on the east, by Lochness, which separates it from Stratherrick; on the south, by the united parish of Boleskin and Abertarf, and that of Kilmanivaig; on the south-west, by the parishes of Glensheal and Kintail, in Ross-shire; and on the west, and north-west, by the district of Strathglass, which lies in the parishes of Kilmorack and Kiltarlity.

The parish is 30 miles in its greatest length; the breadth is, in the greater part, from 8 to 12 miles. It contains the glens or vallies of Urquhart and Glenmoriston, which run nearly parallel, at the distance of eight miles or thereby from each other, in a nearly westerly direction from Loch-

ness. They are separated from each other by a ridge of mountains.

It is called, in public registers, the parish of Urquhart and Glenmoriston, though no evidence appears of an annexation or union, to ascertain whether or not they formerly were distinct parishes. It is probable, however, that they were so in times of Popery.

Etymology.—Nothing satisfactory can be determined respecting the etymology of Urquhart; and though the valley, in general, be so styled, there is no particular place or farm called Urquhart. There are two other parishes of the same name, the one in Ross-shire, and the other in Moray. In Gaelic, the general language of the country, Urquhart is pronounced *Urchudinn*, and this was formerly distinguished by the name of *Urchudin Cill ma Chrossan*, as being the residence of Saint Crossan or *Crostan*; latterly, it is more frequently styled *Urchudin Tbiarna Gbrant*, or the Laird of Grant's Urquhart, by much the larger part of the valley having been, for some ages, the property of the family of Grant. But though the etymology of Urquhart be uncertain, it is abundantly evident, that the names of all the places are pure Gaelic. *Cill*, in its original acceptation, denoted a cell, or the sequestered habitation of a religious person; and from the circumstance, that the people, from reverence to the residence of a saint, buried the dead near his habitation, cill came to signify, in the common language of the people, a church-yard or burial place. There is in the valley of Urquhart two burial places; the one called *Cillmore*, or the Great Burial Place; it is at the lower end of the valley, where the parish-church stands: The other place, still used for sepulture, is at the head of the valley, in Corrimony; it

is called *Claodb Churidan*, which expresses properly the burial place of Curidan. There were anciently two other burial places or cells, called *Cillmhichael* and *Cillsantninian*; both these have long been disused as places of interment. These cells and burial places were named from reverential regard to the holy persons or saints by whom they were consecrated.

In the lower end of the valley, on the north side of the Bay of Urquhart, opposite to the ancient Castle of Urquhart, there remains the vestige of a small religious house, which belonged to the order of the Knights of the Temple, or of St John of Jerusalem; the place where it stood is still called the Temple. The order of Templars was erected by the Pope, *anno* 1128. The Templars greatly increased in numbers, riches, and power, over Christendom; they were suppressed by Pope Clement the Fifth, in a council held at Vienna, *anno* 1312, and their lands were bestowed, mostly by the respective sovereign powers, upon the Knights of St John of Jerusalem. Wherever there was a religious house erected, as belonging to the Knights Templars, it is to be presumed, there were some lands annexed to it. But there is no evidence remaining respecting any Temple-lands in this parish.

Heritors, and State of the Property and Rents.—Sir James Grant of Grant is the principal heritor in the parish. The family of Grant have never had any place of residence in this part of their property, their chief seat having been, since the time of King Robert Bruce, at Castle Grant, in Strathspey. The proprietors of Corrimony were the only heritors descended of the Grant family, who resided in the valley of Urquhart, since the original grant of the lordship of Urquhart, from King James the Fourth to the family of Grant.

It

It appears, from the 41st act of the 11th Parliament of James the Second, that among many other lands annexed to the Crown, the lordship of Urquhart was then included: "*Item, The House of Innerness and Urquhard, and the lordships of them; and the lordships of Abernethy, with the water-mails of Innerness, together with the baronies of Urquhard, Glenurquhane,*" &c.

A general dissolution of the annexed lands to the Crown took place in the time of James the Fourth, by an act of Parliament, passed in the 1503, cap. 90. by which it was made lawful "to his Hiennesse to set all his proper lands, both annexed and unannexed, in few ferme, to ony person or persones, as he pleasis," &c. In consequence of this act, three charters of the lordship and baronies of Urquhart passed in favour of John Grant of Freuchie and of his two sons. The barony of St Ninians and Kyle, comprehending the greater part of the lands of Urquhart, and the valley of Strathchluani, lying between Glenmoriston and Glensheal, was granted to John Grant of Freuchie, the chief of the Clan; and the barony of Glenmoriston, comprehending some lands in Urquhart, was granted to his eldest son; and to his younger son was granted the barony of Corrimony, lying in the valley of Urquhart. These charters all bear the same date, in December 1509.

In the western end of the valley, the grave of a Danish or Norwegian prince is shewn, it is called *Uai Mboni*, that is, the Grave of Moni; a field, near the margin of which the body was laid, is called *Dalmboni*, and the circular valley at the head of the more extended valley of Urquhart, is called *Coiramboni*, or the Valley of Moni. There is a beautiful rocky eminence situated in the bottom, near the lower end of the valley, which is called *Craigmboni*, or the Craig or Rock of Moni. According to tradition, Moni here founded his horn, collected his followers, and made resistance

ance against his enemies; but he was discomfited, pursued up the valley, and was killed at the head of it, and there buried.

In Argyleshire, a tradition is preserved respecting a Norwegian prince of the name of *Moni*, who came with a considerable number of ships, to that part of the western coast where the Crinan Canal is now carrying on. His followers having disembarked, they penetrated the country, and after having possessed themselves of all the plunder they could collect, in returning to their ships, they were attacked by the inhabitants of the country, by whom *Moni* and his followers were routed, and many of them killed, and himself, with a few of his followers, were pressed so hard, that they could not regain their ships, but fled northwards, towards Lochaber. The track of country through which he was pursued, in endeavouring to reach his ships, is precisely in the line of the Crinan Canal, and is known at this day by the appellation of the pass of *Moni*.

According to the tradition of the people in Urquhart, *Moni* was a Norwegian or Danish prince, for he is always called *Moni Mor*, mac Ri Lochlinn; that is, the Great *Moni*, the son of the King of Lochlin.

Burying Places.—There are in Glenmoriston two burying places, called Clachan an Inair, that is, the burial place of the lower part of the valley, where the river Moriston discharges itself into Lochness; and Clachan Mereheard, which is called after a Saint of the name of Merechard. The name of Clachan, given to burial places, is derived from the word *clach*, which signifies a stone. Anciently, in Druidical times, places of worship, and also burial places, were rendered remarkable by a great collection of stones, some thrown together in the shape of cairns, others, of a great size, standing on end, in a circular form; and hence

hence burial places continued to be expressed by the word clachan.

The family of Glenmoriston, of whom Major John Grant, the present proprietor, is the representative, have possessed this part of the parish of Urquhart from the 1548, and was conveyed to John Grant of Culcabock, the ancestor of that family, immediately descended of the family of Grant, by Grant of Ballendalloch, to whom it came, by progress, from the grantee of the Crown, in 1509.

King James the Fourth gave and granted both the castle and lordship of Urquhart, in feu-farm and heritage, for ever, to John Grant of Freuchie, the chief of the Grants, and ancestor to the present Sir James Grant of Grant, Baronet, for his own and his predecessors constant, loyal, and steadfast adherence to his Majesty and his Royal Progenitors, and since then this fort and lands have remained in possession of the family of Grant. For some time before the 1509, the Lairds of Grant were the Crown's Chamberlains over these lands, for keeping the peace in these parts, and had the revenues of these lands as their salary, as the Governors of the Fort or Castle of Urquhart had before them.

Rent.—The valued rent of the parish is L. 2219, 5 s. Scots, and the real rent, including lands and woods, may be estimated at L. 3000 Sterling; but as one of the proprietors has the greater part of his estate in his own possession, and another a considerable farm in his own hands, the rental cannot be accurately known; but the above computation may be esteemed pretty just. Rents have been tripled within these 30 years, and it is comfortable to reflect, that the situation of the tenantry is ameliorated at the same time. This is owing to greater industry in the people, the

the advance of the price of produce, the gradual improvement of the country, and the security of property.

As almost every farm has a proportion of grafs and pasture, it is difficult to say what may be the average rent of arable land by itself; but some acres in the strath or low part of Urquhart, set as high as 20 s. *per* acre, without any benefit of pasturage.

Surface and Soil.—The surface of the parish is extremely unequal; in general it is a mountainous country, yet consists of a most beautiful variety of hill and dale, rock and wood. Both the Glens of Urquhart and Glenmoriston exhibit to the traveller an uncommon and picturesque view of what is beautiful, grand, and sublime in nature; at the same time that some of the mountains present great tracts of stone and moss, incapable of cultivation or improvement.

Urquhart is divided into strath and braes, and is in general a rich, though not a deep loam, and uncommonly fruitful. It produces abundant crops of white and black oats, bear, and rye. Wheat has also been tried with good success. Green crops, such as potatoes, turnips, clover, and rye-grass, pease, and lint, are also raised to good account where the ground is properly prepared.

The soil of Glenmoriston is very inferior to that of Urquhart, being commonly light and sandy, yet produces good crops of potatoes, black oats, a little white oats, and some bear; sown grasses also succeed pretty well where the ground is properly managed.

Mountains.—The most remarkable mountain in the parish is *Mealfuarmbonie*, which rises on the west side of Lochness, to the height of 3060 feet above the level of the sea. It is noted for being the first land-mark with mariners after

after they pass Kinnaird's Head, the entry to the Moray Frith.

Rivers.—The largest river in the parish is Moriston, which rises in Glensheal, and, passing through Loch Cluani, falls into Lochness near the House of Major Grant of Glenmoriston, where, a little above its entry into the Loch, it forms a grand cascade. Here there is a salmon-fishing, which, in some seasons, turns to pretty good account; but, owing to the rock over which the river falls, the fish are prevented from getting up the country, and of course the fishing is much less productive.

Two rivers rise in the hills of Urquhart, the *Enneric* and *Coiltie*, and fall into Lochness near each other, a little below the church of Kilmore. In speats or floods some salmon are found in them; but the whole rivers, and also the different burns or rivulets, contain great plenty of trout.

Lakes.—Lochness having been described in the Statistical Accounts of some of the neighbouring parishes, and being an object so well known, it is needless to say any thing regarding it here.

The parish contains, (as most Highland countries do), a number of inferior fresh-water lakes, which abound with fish, as trout, pike, &c. Regarding one small lake, near the top of Mealfuarmhonie, a vulgar error has prevailed, that it was unfathomable; but its depth has been ascertained by the minister of the parish and another gentleman, and found to be very inconsiderable.

Loch Meikly, in the middle of the braes of Urquhart, is a beautiful sheet of water, about a mile long, and half a
mile

mile broad. The woods, the finely cultivated fields, and the neat gentlemens houses, which surround this lake, form a very picturesque and romantic landscape.

Cascades.—Cascades or waterfalls, some of which are extremely magnificent, are common in this part of the country. The falls of Moral in Corrimony, and of Divach, near the lower end of the valley, are strikingly awful; the latter wants nothing but a quantity of water, to make it rival any in the Highlands; the burn falling down the rock from 90 to 100 perpendicular feet. It lies at about a Scots mile south-west of the church.

Woods.—There are considerable natural woods, both on Sir James Grant's estate in Urquhart, and in Glenmoriston. They consist of Scots fir, birch, also a variety of hard wood, as oak, ash, elm, &c. besides allan, roan-tree, poplar, and several other kinds, which have, from time to time, fetched the proprietors considerable sums of money; and being convenient for market, and in a very thriving condition, will be still more productive. The seats of the proprietors and some of the gentlemen-farmers, are much embellished by clumps and belts of Scots fir and other trees: And in Ruigich, on Lochness-side, there is, perhaps, as great a variety of trees as in any part of Scotland.

Produce.—The produce of this parish is various, consisting of grain, potatoes, lint, hay, timber, black-cattle, sheep, horses, goats, butter and cheese, &c.

Urquhart not only raises grain sufficient for the consumption of the inhabitants, but also sends a considerable quantity of seed-oats and meal to the neighbouring districts. The bear is generally distilled into whisky, but it may be questioned, whether the profit attending this branch of business

be not counterbalanced by a degree of idleness and dissipation, with which the distillery of spirits is attended. At the same time, it must be acknowledged, that there is as little of this in the parish as in most situations where whisky is manufactured. Indeed, it is difficult to say how the bear could be disposed of to advantage in any other way than by distillation, as the people are unacquainted with brewing it into beer, and that too many prefer whisky to ale or porter, though this be fortunately wearing out. If manufactured into meal, that meal would scarcely find sale among Highlanders, who never use it when oat-meal can be found : And, of course, bear would give a very inferior price to what is given by distillers. One, and sometimes two licences, for stills of from 30 to 40 gallons each, are taken out for Urquhart, when the quality of the bear is sufficiently good for distillation.

Glenmoriston does now generally supply itself with grain, but exports none; and it is only since the general cultivation of potatoes that it could support itself. In Urquhart there are about 800 milch-cows, and double that number of yell cattle. In Glenmoriston, some more than 500 milch-cows, and yell cattle in a larger proportion. From both glens, a considerable quantity of butter and cheese is sold, besides what is consumed by the inhabitants; but more from Urquhart, in proportion to the number of milch-cows, than from Glenmoriston. The black cattle are generally of the Highland breed, and good of their kind; Mr Grant of Corrimony's breed is particularly excellent, and inferior perhaps to none in the Highlands. Most of the farmers keep sheep; but there are no regular sheep farms, except Corrimony's, and one in Glenmoriston, both of which turn out well. Among the smaller tenants, the breed of sheep has been much improved, by the purchase of tups and lambs

lambs from the sheep countries to the westward. There are scarcely so many horses reared in Urquhart as the farmers require; from Glenmoriston a good many are sold, besides what the district requires.

Goats are nearly extirpated from Urquhart, on account of the hurt that animal does to young trees; but, in the heights of Glenmoriston, goats are pretty generally reared. The number of sheep, and goats, and horses, is not pretended to be calculated.

Animals.—There are no wild animals peculiar to the parish. The *caper coille*, or wild turkey, was seen in Glenmoriston, and in the neighbouring district of Strathglass, about 40 years ago, and it is not known that this bird has appeared since, or that it now exists in Britain. There are abundance of red deer, roe, black and red game, the brown and white hare, ptarmigans, &c.

Climate.—The climate is, upon the whole, moist, yet wholesome; the people are healthy, and live to a good old age. No epidemical diseases are peculiar to the country. It is to be regretted, that inoculation for the smallpox is not more prevalent, and which is unfortunately owing to religious prejudice.

Occupations, Agriculture, Farms, &c.—The great body of the people live by cultivating the ground, either as tenants, mailers, or servants. There is a sufficiency of artificers for the accommodations of the country, and most of them have a small piece of land, which yields them the comforts of a milch-cow. The farms are generally small, of from L. 5 rent, and even less, to L. 20 Sterling, though some are considerably higher; and some gentlemen-farmers rent from L. 60 to L. 100 Sterling a-year. Leases are generally

nerally short, but in some instances 19, 30, and even longer leases are granted, with encouragement for inclosing and improvement.

Improvements.—On gentlemens farms several handsome houses have been built, the fields inclosed, subdivided, and limed, an approved rotation of cropping followed, grafs-seeds sown, and other improvements made, and their example has been followed with spirit and success by some of the common tenants.

The old Scotch plough is most generally in use, but in all well managed farms, the two-horse, or Small's plough, has been introduced. Cart-wheels are now pretty common in Urquhart; but in Glenmoriston, the state of the roads does not admit of them in general use.

Nothing whatever has been of more advantage to this part of the country, than the general culture of potatoes, which succeed extremely well on every farm, and form a very great part of the food of the poorer class of people; and, owing to this, scarcity is hardly known among them.

The proprietors are desirous of promoting improvements, both by premiums and example. Sir James Grant gives rye-grass and clover-seeds to the smaller tenants on his estate *gratis*, which has greatly encouraged the culture of these most useful plants.

It has been already observed, that lint is raised with success, which is much owing to the liberal encouragement Sir James Grant gives to his people for its culture. His tenants and mailers have lint-seed for new ground, and has built, at his own expence, a lint-mill for its manufacture. By this well-judged liberality, above 100 acres, on Sir James Grant's estate, have been converted from the state of nature into arable field, within these 12 years. Industry has been encouraged among the females, and both sexes exhibit,

exhibit, on Sundays and holy-days, a much improved appearance, from what they were wont to do formerly, by being now dressed in linen of their own growth and manufacture.

Lime has conduced very much to the improvement of Urquhart. There is abundance of limestone on Sir James Grant's estate, and to encourage its use, he not only gives his people quarry-leave free, but is at the expence of quarrying the stones for them. He also gives manufactured lime for new ground, as a premium to the industrious tenant and cottar, at the rate of from 60 to 80 bolls an acre. Lime is much used as a manure by all improvers in farming, but it is to be regretted, that fuel is rather scarce, which enhances the price of lime, it being so high as 2 s. 6 d. and 3 s. the boll of shells, and that boll only making from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 bolls slaked lime, which brings the price to a shilling the boll. The boll measures 96 Scotch pints.

Something more than 20 years ago, Sir James Grant built a small house, in a beautiful situation, in the Strath of Urquhart; but as he resides there but seldom, the house is occupied by the minister, whose manse is in a ruinous state. The House of Corrimony, situated at the head of the glen, is a good commodious lodging, and the place has been much improved by the present proprietor, who has made many inclosures, and otherwise embellished his seat. On the north-west bank of Loch Meikly, and estate of Corrimony, a very neat house has been lately built at Crafgag, now Lakefield, by Captain Grigor Grant, who has greatly improved the farm, and decorated the place. On the south side of that lake, are the places of Lochletter and Shogly, on the property of Sir James Grant, but held on long lease by Mr Grant of Shogly, now of Redcastle, and Mr Grant of Lochletter; these gentlemen built excellent houses on their farms, which they improved considerably.

At

At all the above places there are good gardens, which, in favourable seasons, yield abundance of excellent fruit.

At the foot of Glenmoriston, on the banks of Lochness, Invermoriston, the seat of Major Grant, is situated. Nature has done a great deal for the place, in the grand and sublime style. The proprietor shews a disposition to cultivate and improve this place as it deserves. There are excellent gardens at Invermoriston, which produce as early and high flavoured fruit as is to be found in any part of the north of Scotland. About 40 years ago, the Trustees feued a piece of ground at Invermoriston, on which they erected buildings for establishing a manufacture of linen-cloth, and instructing the youth of that Glen in industry and the principles of literature. Artisans, as weavers and spinners, with a schoolmaster and mistress or governess, were brought from the Low Country, and the management of the business committed to the deceased Mr Shaw, a very respectable and proper man for the trust. But, after several years trial, without much effect in promoting the purpose intended, the scheme was finally abandoned, and the feu resold to the family of Glenmoriston.

Roads and Bridges.—The principal roads which go through Urquhart are, 1. That from Inverness to Fort-Augustus, along the north-west side of Lochness. This road was begun soon after the year 1760, but on account of its extreme difficulty, and the narrowness of the funds, was carried on but slowly for many years; however, by dint of perseverance, repeated aids from the county of Inverness, and several liberal subscriptions from the proprietors and other gentlemen connected with the parish, an excellent road is now made through the woods and rocks of Aberiachan, as far as the Strath of Urquhart, where an exceeding good inn has been lately built by Sir James Grant, at

15 miles distance from Inverness, and nearly half way to Fort-Augustus. From Inverness to Drumnadreeochid, where the inn is built, carriages of all kinds travel with safety; from thence the road is carried on to Fort-Augustus, but this part of it is not yet sufficiently broad for carriages. The road is continued from Drumnadreeochid to Corrimony, at the head of the valley of Urquhart: it is fit for carriages, and kept in good repair. 2. Another great road from Beaully to Fort-Augustus passes through Urquhart, and meets the Inverness road at Drumnadreeochid.

The road from Inverness to Drumnadreeochid was made at a very great expence, through the rocks of Aberiachan, which in several places required to be blown and cut with iron tools. This was perhaps one of the greatest undertakings ever attempted in the Highlands, by a private Society, without the aid of Government. Two great roads pass through Glenmoriston, viz. The military road from Fort-Augustus to Bernera, which has for several years past fallen into great disrepair, being totally neglected by Government. The other great road, is that from the foot to the head of Glenmoriston, which, for want of funds, has never yet been completed, but is very passable for travellers on horseback. This parish has to uphold, and keep in repair, above 50 miles of public, besides cross roads; and the fund for this purpose arises from the commutation of the statute-labour, at 2 s. from each male above 15 years of age, and which amounts to about L. 50, and an assessment of one penny Sterling in the pound Scots of valued rent, amounting to L. 9 : 4 : 11 : this fund is small, but being managed with great care and economy, does wonders.

The road from Inverness to Glenelg, along the west side of Lochness, has been surveyed by order of Lord Adam Gordon, Commander in Chief in Scotland, and an estimate of

of the expence made. As this road would open a communication between the eastern and western parts of this county, to the Hebrides, and a part of Ross-shire, it would be a great public benefit, but it is not expected that it will be effected until the return of the blessings of peace.

Antiquities.—The Castle of Urquhart, a venerable remnant of antiquity, is now fallen into decay. It stands on a jutting out rock, on the west side of Lochness, 12 Scotch miles from the town of Inverness, and as many from Fort-Augustus; a pleasant and romantic situation, commanding a most agreeable view of Lochness, almost from the one end of it at Fort-Augustus, to the other at Bona, and also of the lands, woods, and hills, surrounding the loch on the south, east, and north. The loch washes the east wall of it, and the other three sides were fortified with a strong rampart, a ditch, and draw-bridge. Within the walls were buildings and accommodation for 500 or 600 men. This castle was a royal fort, and granted, as above noticed, by King James IV. in 1509, with the estate and lordship of Urquhart, to the Laird of Grant, in whose family they still continue. For some time before this grant was made, the Lairds of Grant possessed the castle and lands of Urquhart as the Crown's chamberlains. Abercromby the historian says, that King Edward I. of England reduced this fort in 1303, and basely put to the sword Alexander Bois the governor and his garrison, who had bravely defended it. In 1334, the same author says, that Robert Lauder, governor of this fort, maintained it against the English, then in the cause of Edward Baliol.

Price of Labour and Provision.—The price of labour has increased greatly since the commencement of this war. Till then, labourers were satisfied with 8 d. or 9 d. a-day, without

out victuals ; but now they are not to be had at less than a shilling : and at piece-work a great deal more is made, especially at the manufacture of wood, where 2 s. and 2 s. 6 d. are not unfrequently earned. The wages of unmarried men-servants, formerly, seldom exceeded L. 2 Sterling in the half year, with victuals in the family ; married servants had generally L. 3 a-year, with six bolls of meal, at nine stone to the boll, a house, with a cow's grass and fodder, and the liberty of planting as many potatoes as they could procure manure for. Women-servants, from 30 s. to 40 s. in the year. All these are raised in the proportion of from a third to a fourth. The price of all kinds of provisions is much the same as in the Inverness markets.

Church, School, &c.—The parish-church, which stands at Kilmore, near the foot of the Strath of Urquhart, was built in 1630, and about 25 years ago completely repaired, and is a decent comfortable place of worship. The minister officiates two Sundays out of three here, and the third at Meikly, six miles up the country, where is also a very good chapel or meeting-house. The duty, in Glenmoriston, is generally done by the missionary minister of Fort-Augustus, who preaches in that glen once in three weeks ; and where there are two tolerable meeting-houses. Before the establishment of this mission, the minister of Urquhart had to supply every fourth Sunday in Glenmoriston, which made the charge a most troublesome and fatiguing one ; but it is now only expected, that he goes thither occasionally, except when there is a vacancy in the mission ; in this event, he goes there regularly once a-month. But, until Glenmoriston has a missionary entirely to itself, the people cannot be properly accommodated with the means of religion, having at present sermon only once in the three weeks, though it is admitted, that the schoolmaster and catechist, after noticed,

are great aids. Glenmoriston seems a proper station for a society mission. The service is chiefly in Gaelic, the prevailing language of the country; but in Urquhart, especially in the summer months, English is also preached; but seldom in Glenmoriston. Sir James Grant of Grant, Baronet, is patron of the parish, which lies in the presbytery of Abertarf, and synod of Glenelg. Till the year 1724, that the above synod and presbytery were erected, Urquhart belonged to the presbytery of Inverness, and synod of Moray, which would be much more convenient for the incumbent than the present arrangement.

The stipend, by decret in 1796, is L. 100, and L. 5 for communion-elements. The glebe is about six acres of good land. The manse is ruinous, but the minister resides in a comfortable lodging of Sir James Grant's, and the heritors allow him L. 20 a-year in lieu of a manse.

There are two schools in Urquhart, the parochial, and one supported by the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge. The parochial school is within half-a-mile of the church. The salary is L. 14 *per annum*, with a house, the emoluments of precentor and session-clerk, with the quarter-payments from scholars, are about L. 10; total L. 24.—Quarterly payments are, 1 s. for reading English; 1 s. 6 d. for reading and writing; and 2 s. when arithmetic is taught. There is no Latin taught.

The Society school is in the Braes of Urquhart; the salary L. 10, with L. 4 more to the schoolmaster's wife, as a sewing-mistress. Besides these, the country finds them in a house, garden, cow's grass, and fuel, and a little is made of the quarter-payments; but, all put together, the encouragement is greatly too small. The Society intend erecting another school at Bunleoid, on the south side of Urquhart,

hart, as soon as the requisite accommodations are provided, which are in forwardness.

About 40 scholars attend the parochial school in summer, and 60 in winter; and 30 the Society school in summer, and 50 in winter; but it is to be regretted, that they are generally very young children, who do not remain long enough at school to receive much permanent benefit. In Glenmoriston a Society schoolmaster is employed, with L. 15 salary, besides the usual accommodations. There are seldom above 30 scholars at this school. The Society schoolmasters teach Gaelic, and reading the Scriptures in that language, as well as in English.

The Committee for managing the Royal Bounty, give L. 12 to a catechist in this parish; and both he and the Society schoolmasters are most useful in meeting the people, especially such as are distant from places of worship, particularly on the Lord's Day, when they pray and read with the inhabitants, and instruct them in the principles of religion.

In Glenmoriston there are about 80 Roman Catholics, and a very few in Urquhart; but they are moderate, and several of them come occasionally to the Established Church. The rest of the inhabitants are Protestants of the Established Church.

The number of inhabitants in the parish of Urquhart, of all ages, are 2355; of which, in Urquhart properly so called, there are 1710; and in Glenmoriston 645. In 1755, the number was 1943 souls; the increase consequently amounts to 412. The baptisms, at an average, are 80; and the marriages 20, in both districts. The deaths cannot be ascertained, as there are not less than four burial-grounds, at a great distance from each other. The number of marriages and baptisms have increased for several years past, owing

owing to the more regular behaviour of the people, and their being in more comfortable circumstances. A proof of which is, that early marriages are very frequent, and which, naturally, prevent irregularities. Here, it may be observed, that 80 men were raised in 1793, for the First Fencible Regiment; and there are now in the parish two companies of volunteers; one in Urquhart, of 60, and the other in Glenmoriston, of 40 men.

Poor.—In Urquhart there are scarcely any travelling poor. About 30 receive aid from the session funds, which are the ordinary collections on Sundays, penalties for trespasses, (which are seldom), and the interest of L. 100 of mortifications and former savings, amounting, in all, to about L. 15 a-year; but out of which the session-clerk and kirk-officer are paid L. 2 : 4 : 6; the remainder is divided according to the several exigencies of the poor.

The Glenmoriston poor beg more generally from home than their neighbours of Urquhart, and they are more in number, in proportion to the inhabitants. Their funds are the interest of about L. 25 of mortifications and bequests, and the Sunday collections and fines, amounting, at an average, to L. 3, besides the interest of the above L. 25.

The funds of each glen are kept separate, and the poor of Urquhart receive nothing from Glenmoriston, nor those of Glenmoriston from Urquhart. In Urquhart, a quarterly collection is usually made for bed-rids, and other great objects in distress, when it is expected that every person will contribute according to their ability. The produce of this makes a part of the aggregate fund; but bed-rids, &c. get a much larger proportion. In severe seasons, and to objects of great distress, the heritors and other gentlemen are extremely liberal and charitable. In the noted 1782, so much attention was paid to the situation of the necessitous, that
few

few endured, and none suffered by, want. In the severe spring 1795, Sir James Grant ordered 20 guineas to be divided among the poor in this quarter.

Miscellaneous Observations.—Before the years 1745 and 1746, this parish was exceedingly exposed to depredations from their neighbours in the West Highlands, who came and took up their cattle and other property without ceremony, for which they made no compensation. Now, by the exercise of the laws, and a well governed police, property is as secure as in any part of the island. Formerly, there were no roads, no bridges, no comfortable communication through the parish, and, in short, no attention was paid to any object of police, whether public or private. Now, Urquhart is not more remarkable for its improvement in the external than in the internal parts of police. The heritors and other gentlemen have taken an active concern to promote this laudable purpose. Most of them act as Justices of the Peace, and in this office perform a duty of importance to society in general, and to this district in particular. The improved state of the roads and bridges has been already taken notice of. It is well worthy of remark, that all civil disputes which may have arisen among the people on Sir James Grant's estate in this parish, have, for 30 years past, been determined by Mr Grant of Lochletter, a gentleman acting in the capacity of baron-bailie, one excepted, in which he declined to judge, being of too criminal a nature for his jurisdiction. Except this single cause, none, during this long period, has gone before the sheriff-court of Inverness, or other tribunal; and the baron-bailie's decisions are equally remarkable for their ability and justice, as for that general satisfaction they give the contending parties. This has not only tended to save the poor people a deal of money, but has crushed, in a great measure,

measure, the spirit of litigation, and conduced very much to their civilization.

The inhabitants are attentive to their religious duties, and, upon the whole, sober, industrious, and virtuous.

The country contains all the necessaries, and many of the comforts, of life, in abundance. It has been considerably improved already, and improvement is progressive. The situation of the people becomes daily better, their living and clothing are much meliorated, and by perseverance in the same line of conduct, which at present distinguishes the superior and inferior, their mutual interest and comfort will, under Providence, be still further promoted and increased.

NUM.

NUMBER XVII.

PARISH OF BANFF.

(COUNTY OF BANFF, SYNOD OF ABERDEEN, AND
PRESBYTERY OF FORDYCE.)

By the Rev. Mr. ABERCROMBY GORDON.

Name.

THE town of Banff gives name to the county and parish, in which it is situated. Its etymology is variously stated, and indeed seems of little importance to trace.

By some, the name is said to be of Gaelic extraction, signifying a place surrounded with high ground; but this interpretation appears too vague and general, and cannot well be applied to a situation partly open to the sea.

Banff was a part of the ancient thanedom of Boin, whence the name seems to be derived. In some old charters it is spelled Boineffe and Baineffe. The district of Boin has probably received its name from a conspicuous mountain in the neighbourhood of Cullen, called the Binn. On the

the south side of this hill, at Darbrich, the forrester had his dwelling; and it is well known that the forrestry and thanedom territory extended thence to the borough lands of Banff, divided only by the water of Boindie *.

Situation and Extent.—The situation of this parish is somewhat peninsular, being bounded by the river Dove-ran on the east, which divides it from the parish of Gamery; and by the water of Boindie on the west, separating it from the parish of that name. On the south, it is bounded by part of the parish of Alva; and on the north, by the Murray Frith.

It belongs to the presbytery of Fordyce, and to the synod and commissariat of Aberdeen. This parish forms an irregular oblong figure, stretching from north to south-west above six miles; and in breadth measures from one and an half to two and an half miles. It may contain about 12 square miles, and 7680 acres.

Surface and Soil.—The surface is in general beautifully unequal, and rises gradually to the south-west. The nature and quality of the soil are no less various. There are all sorts, the rich fertile loam, the deep strong clay, the light sandy field, and the thin gravelly bottom.

Sea-coast and Rivers.—The sea-coast, for half-a-mile westward of the harbour, is bold and rocky.

Towards the water of Boindie it forms a fine sandy beach, adjoining which is the links †, affording an excellent

* The following etymology is hazarded: Boiny or Boindie is said, in the Gaelic, to signify a little hill, and in this parish there are a great number of knolls, mounts and rising grounds.

† An extensive down or plain by the sea side, is known in Scotland by the name of links.

lent field for the healthful exercises of riding and the golf.

The only river is the Doveran, which has its source in Aberdeenshire, and, winding through many fruitful and highly cultivated plains, falls into the sea at Banff.

State of Property, Valued and Real Rents.—The Earl of Findlater, the Earl of Fife, and Lord Banff, are the principal proprietors; of whom, Lord Fife is the only residing heritor.

The valued rent of the landward part of the parish is L. 2313 Scots. The real rent, including the salmon-fishing and town's lands, is estimated at L. 4500 Sterling.

Burgh.—The town is situated at the influx of the river Doveran, on a fine declivity, opening to the east and south-east; commanding various and delightful prospects. From the sloping road, on the opposite side the river, the variegated scenery which opens to the view is highly gratifying, and never fails to attract the attention of strangers.

The noble mansion of the Earl of Fife, the spacious lawn and extensive pleasure-grounds in his Lordship's park, the smooth flowing Doveran, with its stately bridge, the town and castle of Banff, the bay, harbour and shipping, are the striking objects which at once present themselves to the eye, and charm every traveller of taste.

Banff is an ancient royalty, and the capital of the county. In conjunction with Elgin, Cullen, Inverury, and Kintore, it sends a Commissioner to Parliament.

At what precise period it was erected into a royal burgh cannot be ascertained. According to tradition, it was in the reign of Malcolm Canmore. It is, however, certain, that Malcolm IV. called the Maiden, was at Banff, A. D. 1163.

William the Lyon gives a toft and garden in the burgh of Banff to his chaplain Archibald Douglas, bishop of Moray, A. D. 1165; and fimilar gifts are made to him in the towns of Inverness, Nairn, and Cullen, all royal burghs at this period.

King Robert Bruce confirms the privileges of royalty, and King Robert II. 7th October 1372, alfo confirms the fame, and fuch other privileges and liberties as were enjoyed by the town of Aberdeen.

These grants were followed by confirmations from King James VI. and Charles II.

Municipal government, &c.—The town is governed by a provost, four bailies and twelve counsellors. Eight of the old council are re-elected, and the new counsellors are chosen annually out of the merchant guild-brethren.

The annual revenue of the burgh amounts to L. 300 Sterling, arising chiefly from feu-duties, rents of lands, shore-dues and petty customs.

Alienation of Lands and Fishings.—Such was the distressed situation of the burgesſes, A. D. 1470, that, having no power to increaſe their revenues but by leaſe alone, the managers of the town, without fraud, and upon their great *aitb*, with conſent of all and fundry neighbours of Banff, let out to certain burgesſes, for 19 years, the whole of their ſalmon-fiſhings, conſiſting of 12 nets, for the “ infeſting “ and fundanation makkin of a perpetual chaplenary *, to “ ſing in the Peil-heiſe † of the burgh, for our Sovereign “ Lord

* Public Records.

† Pool-haven, where formerly boats and ſmall craft were generally moored. It is now the burying-ground, and was the ſite of the old church.

“ Lord the King and Queen, their predeceffors and succes-
 “ fors ; for all Christiane foules ; for the theiking of the
 “ kirk with fclate, and the bigging of the tolbuthe, and for
 “ quhat the burgh has not fubftance.” Similar leafes were
 probably granted until the year 1581, when George Ogil-
 vie of Dunlugas, provoft, and his coadjutors in office, refol-
 ved to feu to perpetuity. To this effect they obtained a
 charter from James II. of Scotland, dated May 9. 1581.
 The preamble bears, that, “ for the advantage of the burgh *,”
 “ the council had been in ufe of granting leafes of their
 “ property to the refiding burgeffes ; that thefe leafes were
 “ now expired, and that the nobility in the neighbourhood
 “ feeing the fame, and hoping to acquire the profits, did
 “ trouble and moleft the peace of the town, and gave no
 “ reft to the people : therefore,” &c. &c.

This charter was renewed on the King’s attaining the
 age of 25 years, *mutatis mutandis*.

Having thus obtained a right to let out their property to
 perpetuity, the guardians proceeded to exercife their powers.
 John Baird, provoft, and the bailies of the town, (two of
 whom could not write), were among the commissioners ap-
 pointed *ad hunc effectum*. Accordingly, A. D. 1595, “ be-
 “ caufe of the warres and troubles, the darth of the coun-
 “ try, and fcantinefs of victual, with exorbitant ftents and
 “ taxations for fupporting the warres, the public warkes, and
 “ uphading of the kirk, tolbuthe, and calfies, &c. ; for re-
 “ meid whereof, this empower to fet, fell and feu, the com-
 “ mon land and falmon-fifhings of the burgh, to merchant-
 “ burghers, and actual refidenters.”

Thefe magiftrates and commissioners, in confequence of
 their inftructions, did accordingly let out to perpetuity, for
 a fmall annual feu-duty, the greater part of their lands, and
 the whole of their falmon-fifhings.

In

* Public Records.

In the above-mentioned charter of 1592, the King, in order to preserve the government of the town pure from any mixture of *aristocracy*, gives power to the council to dispose of their property to *residing burghesses and their heirs-male only*. Had this arrangement been cautiously executed, the intentions of the original granters might have been accomplished; but it is evident, that the ancient governors, if not too attentive to their own interest, were at least somewhat negligent of the advantages of future generations. Thus did the measure defeat its own purpose, and produced the consequences they wished to avoid; for though the neighbouring nobility have not molested the peace and quiet of the inhabitants, they have got possession of the property, as the Earl of Fife has purchased near three-fourths of the whole, and the Earl of Findlater and Lord Banff a considerable part of the remainder. It was the remark of Dean Swift, which the present situation of this burgh strongly confirms, that “great changes and alienations of property” “have created new and great dependencies.”

Duff House and Park.—Duff House, the principal seat of the Earl of Fife, and the beautiful scenery of his Lordship's park, are well known to the tourist, and described in the journals of several celebrated travellers.

The house is a large quadrangular building, planned and executed by the late celebrated Mr Adam.

The architecture is superb, but the design is not yet completed. The original plan, which is truly magnificent, may be seen in Wolf's Vitruvius.

Duff House contains several very elegant apartments, in which is a great profusion of paintings, chiefly portraits. Those particularly noticed by Mr Pennant, are, Frances Duchess of Richmond, a full length, in black, painted in

1633,

1633, by Vandyck. Fine heads of Charles I. and his Queen. A head of Duff of Corfinae. There are likewise a few paintings by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and other eminent masters.

The library is a spacious room, near 70 feet in length, and extending through the whole breadth of the building. The books are numerous, and well selected. In a small apartment adjoining, is a cabinet, containing an extensive collection of Roman and British coins, medals, &c.

Lord Fife's park and surrounding plantations measure 14 miles in circumference.

The park is bounded by the two bridges of Banff and Alvah, and contains within its circuit a part of two counties, and four parishes *. The pleasure grounds are laid out with much taste and elegance. The walks are of great extent and variety, some winding beautifully along the banks of the Doveran, and others leading off, in different directions, to wide and distant plantations.

About three miles from the house, where the river is considerably narrowed by the lofty and impending craigs of Alvah, a majestic arch is thrown across, which is highly picturesque. Here the view which presents itself is peculiarly wild and romantic. The fine windings of the river, the rugged scenery on either side, the overhanging woods, and,

————— the precipice abrupt,
Projecting horror on the blacken'd flood,

THOMSON.

form a landscape truly grand, and worthy the pencil of a Claude Lorraine.

Agriculture

* Counties of Aberdeen and Banff, and the parishes of Banff, Gamrie, Alvah and King Edward.

Agriculture and Improvements.—The state of agriculture in this parish continued stationary for almost a century preceding 1754.

This fact is confirmed, by considering that the land rent suffered little or no change during the above period. From the proven rental in the former decret of stipend, it appears, that the lands belonging to the town paid no advance of rent from 1635 to 1729.

The extensive pasturage of the Gallow-hill, the property of the town, was then rented at the pitiful sum of 10 merks yearly.

In 1754, the town-council feued out these grounds to the inhabitants at 10 s. *per* acre, with a reserve to them of buying up the feu-duty at 25 years purchase.

Industry, superior culture, the advantages of sea-weed, and vicinity to the town, have now rendered what was originally barren, fertile and productive.

These lands are regularly subdivided, and inclosed with substantial stone fences, may be let from L. 2 to L. 3 an acre, and produce excellent crops of all kinds. A few fields adjoining the town are rented so high as L. 5 and L. 6 *per* acre. These are chiefly occupied by gardeners, who raise pot-herbs and other vegetables for the supply of the inhabitants.

About 40 years ago, potatoes and turnips were cultivated, as rare vegetables, in the garden, and were not brought to market. Now, cattle are chiefly fed by turnip; potatoes are frequently given to horses, and are sold in great abundance by the gardeners, and in the weekly markets, at 6 d. and 7 d. a peck, of 32 lbs weight.

It is a curious fact, that on the introduction of this useful root, the great landholders were alarmed lest it should be the means of depreciating the value of grain, the staple commodity

commodity of the country. The effect, however, has been the reverse; grain of all kinds being, for some years past, in greater demand, and at higher prices, than at any former period.

Prior to the year 1754, the practice of winter-herding was little known. No sooner was the harvest completed, than the whole country became one great common, and every farmer considered he had an undoubted right to pasture his flocks on his neighbour's fields. In those days, even the best farms were generally divided into what is called out-field and infield; and both were wasted by an injudicious mode of cropping. From this torpid state the farmer was roused by the spirited exertions of the late Earl of Findlater, who happily introduced a new system of farming in this country. His Lordship, during his residence in the Castle of Banff, having taken one of his farms into his own possession, determined to cultivate it after the most approved methods then known in the kingdom. With this view, he engaged an active and experienced overseer from England, to whom he devolved the management of this farm, and in a few years improved it in a stile and manner unknown in this country*.

To conquer the power of habit, and eradicate ancient prejudices, is often a fruitless attempt, and is a task peculiarly difficult in effecting agricultural improvements. Such, however, was the influence of his Lordship's eminent example as a farmer, joined to the judicious encouragement which he afforded his tenants, that, in a few years, a spirit of industry and enterprise pervaded all ranks of proprietors and farmers in this country, and produced a striking improvement in the soil and appearance of this parish and neighbourhood.

Lord

* See Agricultural Report of this county, by Mr Donaldson.

Lord Findlater was also the first who introduced, on a large scale, the practice of fallow, and the use of lime, sowing grass-seeds, turnip and other green crops; improvements now generally adopted, and with great success. His Lordship's improvements, with the general mode of farming practised in this corner, will be found more fully detailed in the Agricultural Reports of this county.

Farms.—The farms most remarkable for beauty, extent and improvement, in this parish, are, Colleopard and Boindie Hills, belonging to Lord Findlater, and Blairshinnoch, the property of Lord Banff. The first of these was one of Lord Findlater's experimental farms. It lies on a gentle declivity, opening to the south, and commands a variety of pleasing prospects. The fields are laid out with much taste and judgment, inclosed and subdivided with hedge-rows and belts of thriving wood. It bears a striking resemblance to a fine English farm, and to those who remember its former appearance, it seems altogether a new creation. The farm of Blairshinnoch contains about 400 acres, and is generally a productive field.

Boindie Hills is chiefly occupied as a sheep farm, and proves a very lucrative possession to Mr Milne, affording excellent pasture to a flock of 200 to 300 sheep, chiefly of English breed, and of the largest size.

Nor, in this account, must we omit the little farm of Cowden Knows *, distant about a mile from the town, and justly celebrated for its rural beauty.

Attracted by its wild and simple scenery, the present tenant has chosen this *ferme ornée* as a summer retreat.

From

* This is not supposed to be the scene of the plaintive Scots ballad.

From his clay-built cottage, situated on a rising ground, there is an extensive view of the Murray Frith, of the lofty mountains of Sutherland and Caithness, and various woodland prospects.

This favoured spot is preserved quite in the pastoral stile.

“ Here no rude ploughman fide-long lays the glebe,

“ ————— Nor sower stalks

“ With measur'd steps, —————

“ Nor harrow follows, harsh, to shut the scene.”

THOMSON.

The present occupier aspires not to the extravagant praise which Dean Swift bestows on the man “ who makes
“ one ear of corn to grow where there was none before.”

————— Juvat arva videre

Non rastris hominum, non ulli obnoxia curæ.

VIRG. GEORG.

Prices of grain, &c. at different periods.—Meal was sold, by contract for seven years, at 8 s. 6 d. per boll, commencing with crop 1758; at 9 s. for the same period, commencing with crop 1764; and at 9 s. 6 d. from 1767. Ten shillings was considered a reasonable price for a contract of seven years, commencing 1768. The medium price of meal, for 20 years preceding 1782, was 11 s. 7½ d.; and from that year to 1795, about 13 s. 2 d.

For some years past, oats have been sold at 1 s. 1 d. and 1 s. 2 d. per stone weight *. Meal and barley have given proportionably high prices. Such was the alarming defi-

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ency

* The boll of oats sometimes weighs 14½, 15, and sometimes 16 stones.

ency of crop 1795, that meal was sold in this parish at 21 s. a boll of eight stones Dutch weight, and barley at 25 s. *.

Implements

* Barley of a good kind generally weighs from 18 to 20 stones per boll.

Owing to the late injudicious opening of the ports for importation, and the threatening of a farther depression of the distilleries, there is at present an extraordinary stagnation in the sale of grain, which must be attended with the most serious consequences to the farmer.

In seasons of plenty, the impolicy of opening the ports for importation must be obvious to the humblest capacity. When prices are low, in consequence of such plenty, a bounty ought to be given upon exportation; and that bounty ought to be continued until the price rises to a certain height.

"There must be something very seductive, or very profitable, in the importation of foreign grain; for all the laws that have hitherto been made to prevent it, have been evaded; and yet, except the importer, it is clearly against the interest of every other person in the kingdom: for it is destructive of our own agriculture; and we have seen, from certain evidence, that it raises the price of grain upon the consumer.

"While the ancient laws laid the country open to the importation of foreign grain, by injudicious duties or restrictions upon our own produce, our farmers were dispirited; a great part of the soil lay without culture; the price of grain was consequently high; and population was restrained.

"When the restrictions were not only removed, but bounties given upon the exportation of our excrecent stock, by the acts of 1688 and 1700, the happiest effects were immediately experienced: These laws acted like magic; our agriculture immediately rose, as from the dead; population increased; and instead of eating the bread of foreign nations, we not only maintained all our own people, at a lower rate than was ever known before, but the kingdom received an immediate addition of riches and strength, from the money brought in, from the increase of shipping, and from the people employed in raising and exporting the surplus of our produce: A state of prosperity which continued without interruption for above half a century after the Union. No sooner was importation again encouraged, than our agriculture languished, our exportation declined, and the prices of grain rose."

"Importation of foreign grain acts like a mole under ground; we know nothing of its operations but by the heaps which it raises; and when these heaps come to cover an 8th, an 18th, or even a 475th part of our own soil, it is high time to turn them down."

The

Implements of Husbandry.—In no branch of agriculture has there been a more striking and essential improvement than in the construction of the implements of husbandry. Carts were not used in this parish till the year 1728, when Mr Duff of Corfindae, then residing in Banff, introduced them, having procured two "*timber carts*," at the price of 5 s. each. The creel or curroch was then the common vehicle in use. Grain, meal, and lime for exportation, were brought hither on horseback, from the most inland parts of the country.

The only plough then used, was what is known by the name of the old Scottish plough, in its rudest form. Now, carriages, ploughs, harrows, and the various utensils of husbandry, of the most approved and modern construction, are either imported from Leith, or manufactured in this country. These are generally painted; a practice which has both ornament and utility to recommend it *.

Nursery.—Adjoining the farm of Colleopard, there is a nursery of considerable extent, conducted by Mr Reid. It was begun about 30 years ago, and has of late been greatly enlarged

The above facts and observations are taken from "An Inquiry into the Corn Laws and Corn Trade of Great Britain, and their influence on the Prosperity of the Kingdom; by the late Alexander Dirom, Esq; of Muir-elk."

Mr Dirom was amply qualified for the investigation of these important subjects. He was particularly acquainted with the state of this county, having long resided in Banff.

* The ingenious Bishop of Llandaff, in his Chemical Essays, observes, "Since the same piece of wood has different weights, when dry, and when soaked with water, the covering carts, ploughs, and other husbandry gear usually made of ash, with a coarse kind of paint which will keep out the rain, is a practice full as serviceable in lessening the weight of the implement which is to be moved by the strength of man or horse, as in preserving the wood from decay."

enlarged and improved. It occupies between 15 and 20 acres, and contains all the variety of fruit and forest trees, ever-green and flowering shrubs, flower roots and plants, which are in demand in this climate.

A gentleman in this neighbourhood, Mr Garden of Troup, in the course of three or four years, has planted from Mr Reid's nursery, the immense number of one million nine hundred thousand trees, besides what he procured from other quarters, and the greater part in a thriving state*.

Woods, &c.—It is generally supposed, that a considerable part of this parish, towards the south-west, has been covered with woods, and belonged to the ancient forest of Boin. A simple distich, which tradition has handed down, confirms this opinion:

From Culbirnie † to the sea,

You may step from tree to tree.

There is still in possession of a farmer in that quarter, an oak tree, 30 feet long, which was dug up in the neighbourhood of his farm.

Since the decay or demolition of that forest, there were very few trees in this district, till the year 1756, when Lord Fife began his plantations. These are now of great extent and variety, and in a flourishing state.

The woods on Lord Findlater's estates in this parish are likewise thriving, and of considerable extent.

All these plantations add greatly to the decoration of the country, to the comfort of the poor, and to the facility of every branch of industry.

Ecclesiastic

* In these plantations a balm of Gilead fir, last season, advanced 20 inches in height.

† Culbirnie, a farm about three miles distant from the sea.

Ecclesiastical State.—From the public records it appears, that the kirk of Banff was rebuilt by the town-council in the year 1471, when Sir James Ogilvie of Deskford was provost. They endowed a chaplain, with ten merks of stipend, besides a living out of the common fund. Before this period, the chaplainry of St Mary, of the order of Carmelites, was the only other establishment of worship in the royalty.

The parishes of Banff and Inverboindie continued united till the year 1634, when Mr Alexander Seton, then minister of Banff, brought an action * of valuation and modification of the teinds against the heritors, by which the union was declared void, and each holden to be a separate parish, and distinct congregation.

The first minister of this parish, after its disjunction from Boindie, was Mr Alexander Seton. He died 1679, and was succeeded by Mr Patrick Innes, minister of Deskford, who died *anno* 1699. His successor in office was Mr William Hunter, minister of Tyrie. In 1712, Mr Hunter being suspended from preaching, upon his refusal of the abjuration oath, the church was supplied by the brethren of the neighbourhood. The following year he returned to his charge, and died 1716. Mr James Innes was admitted in December 1716, and died September 1753. In December following, Mr Robert Trail, minister at Kettins, was admitted; and in October 1761, was preferred to the Divinity Chair

* The Earl of Airly, Lord Deskford, and the other heritors, unanimously submitted the terms of the disjunction, and amount of stipend, to Patrick Archbishop of Glasgow, and John Bishop of Ross. Accordingly, these arbiters settled the boundaries of the two parishes, and fixed the *quantum* of stipend payable to each minister, at $3\frac{1}{2}$ chalders of victual, and 350 merks of money, with the vicarage teinds *ipsa corpora*. This judgment was confirmed by the Lords Commissioners of Teinds.

Chair in the University of Glasgow. He was succeeded by Mr Andrew Skene, minister of Keith, who died at Bath, in December 1792.

The present incumbent, Mr Abercromby Gordon, was admitted in August 1793.

The parish church was built in the years 1789 and 1790, after the model of the new church at Dundee; of which Mr Pennant says, "It is built in a stile that does credit to the place, and shews an enlargement of mind in the Presbyterians, who now begin to think that the Lord may be praised in beauty of holiness."

The body of the church measures 80 feet in length, and 30 of breadth, within the walls. It is of proportionable height. Four Ionic columns support the galleries, which form five sides of an octagon, and are high and spacious. The church is elegantly finished within, and, exclusive of roomy passages, will contain 1500 persons. The pulpit is perhaps raised to an incommodious height, being an ascent of 21 steps. Some of my brethren, accustomed to a more humble *rostrum*, decline officiating in so elevated a situation, and are ready to exclaim with the poet,

How fearful
And dizzy 'tis, to cast one's eyes so low!

I'll look no more,
Lest my brain turn, and the deficient sight

Topple down headlong. SHAKESPEARE.

The roof is a curious and massy structure. It has ten principal couples, whose beams extend the whole width of the house, and support the cieling. The couples are strongly bound with iron, having 700 pounds weight on each.

The spire still remains in an unfinished state, which gives the whole building a heavy and awkward appearance. It is intended, however, to resume the work next season.

The

The church has already cost L. 2400. The old church was taken down only last year, excepting an ancient vaulted aisle, on the south side, now a burying place of Lord Banff's family.

By a late decree of augmentation, the minister's stipend is 60 bolls barley, 52 bolls meal, L. 63 Sterling money. In this are included the vicarage tithes converted, and L. 5 as the allowance for communion-elements.

The glebe, which consists of seven and one half acres, is a beautiful and fertile field, immediately adjoining the town.

The manse was substantially repaired about three years ago, and is a comfortable residence. For this purpose, and for rebuilding the garden-walls, the heritors most cheerfully granted L. 250, with an annual allowance to the present minister of L. 10, for upholding these repairs.

The garden contains nearly half an acre of ground, and is a most productive spot.

The Earl of Findlater is patron. The Magistrates also claim the right of patronage, and have been in habit of formally protesting against his Lordship's presentation. It is apprehended, however, that such protest can be of no avail in preserving their rights, unless made before the presentation is received and sustained by the presbytery, a mode which has not been attended to in this instance.

Banff is not a collegiate charge, though the numbers of the people would require, and the funds in the parish are sufficient to endow, a second minister. Besides the Established Church, there are three places of worship in this town, the Episcopal chapel, the church of Relief, and a Roman Catholic meeting-house.

From the statement of the Reverend Mr Skinner, late minister of St Andrews Chapel, the numbers in his charge amount nearly to 300. Formerly they were divided, and belonged

belonged partly to the communion of the Church of England, and partly to the Episcopal Church of Scotland. But in the year 1792, when a bill passed in Parliament, relieving the laity of the latter persuasion from those forfeitures, penalties and disabilities, to which they had long been subjected, both congregations, with a few exceptions, united under the spiritual jurisdiction of the Bishop of Aberdeen.

The chapel is conveniently situated, neat and commodious, and has a well-toned small organ.

The poor are admitted to the benefit of the public funds of the parish; in return for which, an annual collection is made in the chapel on Christmas evening, which the clergyman distributes indiscriminately to the poor of other persuasions.

The church of Relief was built in the year 1780, is situated in the Seatown, and is a very commodious edifice. The congregation, which is numerous, is composed partly of families residing in Banff, and partly of people from neighbouring parishes.

The numbers from this town and parish, according to a communication of their minister, are as follows:

From the town,	-	-	360
Country district,	-	-	40
Total,	-	-	400

Of these are said to be examinable, 330.

The poor of this congregation likewise share in the benefit of the general funds; and a public collection is occasionally made in their church, for the relief of the poor at large, which is usually committed to the disposal of the parish minister.

Those

Those attending the Roman Catholic meetinghouse from this parish, according to the statement of their clergyman, are in number 96; of which, 74 are examinable.

Poor.—The funds for the maintenance of the numerous poor in this parish are considerable.

The permanent funds, valuing two inclosures of land at 25 years purchase, amount to nearly L. 900 Sterling, including L. 200 allotted for the support of the poor's school.

Interest of money,	-	-	L. 27	0	0
Land rent	-	-	14	0	0
Weekly collections for 1797,	-	-	98	18	0
Penalties from delinquents,	-	-	3	0	0
			L. 142	18	0

Poor who receive occasionally,	-	-	60
Poor on the quarterly roll,	-	-	80
Ditto on the weekly roll,	-	-	10
Total,	-	-	150

The poor on the quarterly roll receive from 2 s. 6 d. to 5 s. each; those on the weekly list are generally allowed 1 s. each.

Previous to the quarterly distribution, an edict is regularly read from the precentor's desk, requiring the attendance of heritors, magistrates, &c.

Besides the ordinary weekly collections, there is generally an annual voluntary subscription, for the relief of poor families during the rigour of winter*.

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* This season the Ladies have generously subscribed a sum for a salary to a sick-nurse, for attending the poor during illness.

Here is a small hospital or bede-house, which affords lodging to eight poor decayed women. It has no other endowment than what is derived from the parochial funds, and the donations of charitable individuals *.

In few places are the poor supplied with more liberality than in Banff. Hence the great number of this description who resort hither from neighbouring parishes, and become stationary. At the same time, it may be remarked, that here, as in most other towns, indigence is often marked with the appearance of greater wretchedness than in country villages, or the solitary cottage.

Those who are entrusted with the management of the poor's funds, have too frequent cause to observe, and to lament, that our charitable contributions, intended as the reward of merit, or the refuge of misfortune, are sometimes, and unavoidably, bestowed on the indolent, the intemperate, and the undeserving, whether natives or strangers. But, "to do the best, (observes an eloquent writer), can seldom be the lot of man; it is sufficient if, when opportunities are presented, he is ready to do good. How little virtue could be practised, if beneficence were to wait always for the most proper objects, and the noblest occasions; occasions that may never happen, and objects that may never be found."

Antiquities.—Few remains of antiquity are to be seen in this parish, to attract observation. Of these few, the old religious houses merit a place in this account.

Here

* Mr George Smith, a native of this county, lately bequeathed L. 1000 Sterling to the Magistrates of Banff, for the express purpose of building an hospital or infirmary. The money becomes soon payable, and such a useful institution will prove a most substantial benefit to this part of the country, so far distant from the Infirmary at Aberdeen.

Here was a convent of Carmelites, or White Friars, consecrated to the Virgin Mary. This order of mendicant friars derived their origin and name from Mount Carmel, in Syria. St Lewis, King of France, returning from Asia, brought along with him some of this sect, whom he established in Paris. They were afterwards divided into 32 provinces, of which Scotland was the 13th. They were denominated White Friars, from their exterior dress. It seems probable, that a convent of these Carmelites was established in Banff, by Alexander III.; although the first Sovereign grant respecting it on record, is dated "Apud Sconam, 1mo die Aug. 1324," confirming, &c. "Deo, beatae Mariae Virgini, et religiosis fratribus ordinis de Monte Carmelite, capellam beatae Mariae juxta villam de Banff, una cum doto ad eandem capellam pertinente, ad aedificandam ibidem ecclesiam, et alios domos sui ordinis, et ad inhabitandum Dom. locum cum fratribus ejusdem ordinis, presenti pontifice ejusdem fratribus specialiter est concessum: praeterea, damus et concedimus hac presta carta nostra, confirm. fratribus ibidem Deo servientibus, et pro servituris, illam davatum terrae*, cum pertinentiis quae ad dictam capellam ante presentem collationem nostram pertinere solebant, ad inveniendum panem, vinum, et ceram, ad cultum Domini ibidem divinius exercendum."

The habit of the order was white, and on the lower part of their mantle were several rolls of stuff. But this habit being disagreeable to the people, Pope Honorius IV. ordered them to change their garb. Accordingly, they laid aside

* This is the fine plain called the Daw-haugh, on which Duff House stands. This field, together with sandy hills, &c. made a davoch of land, supposed to contain 416 acres. *Vide Statistical Report of Rhynie.*

afide the bands or rolls from their mantle, and wore afterwards a white cloak, above a grey or tawny gown.

The arms they assumed was a representation of the Virgin Mary, and of our Saviour, elevated on a temple; and below, the figure of a Carmelite, in his pontificals, and in a kneeling posture.

Sir Walter Ogilvie of Denlugas, eager to acquire an addition of landed property, laid in his claim, before the Reformation, for a gift of this religious convent, and obtained a grant thereof, *anno* 1544*. The family of Denlugas retained possession of these heritages till 1630, when they became the property of the Earl of Airly, and in 1690 were purchased by the Laird of Bracco, ancestor of Lord Fife. The superiority, with the feu-duties, were gifted by James VI. to the King's College of Aberdeen, and bought from them, in 1752, by the Earl of Fife.

Two of the Carmelite cells are still to be seen, near the old church, in a pretty entire state.

The beautiful green mount in Lord Fife's park, and another of inferior size, situated in the middle of the town, formed a part of the Carmelites territory. These mounts appear to have been chiefly the work of art, and are supposed to be the labours of penance enjoined by the fraternity.

On the mount in Duff House park, are still to be remembered the ruins and foundation of their chapel, around which was the consecrated ground of the sepulchre. Here many bones of the dead were found, and by the care of Lord Fife deposited in a large urn, elevated on a pedestal, near

* To this grant William Smith, Prior of the Carmelites in Banff, Sir John Christosom, Prior at Aberdeen, and several other brethren, are subscribers.

near the mount. In the same ground, on an eminence, overhanging the river, his Lordship has built an elegant mausoleum. It is of Gothic architecture, surrounded with shrubbery,

"The cypress and the yew's funereal shade," and forms a striking ornament to the park. The windows are of painted glass, in casements of stone, and in front are placed two beautiful figures in statuary, emblematical of Faith and Hope.

Among the monuments in the mausoleum, is one of curious sculpture, and great antiquity, sacred to the memory of John Duff of Maldavat, an ancestor of Lord Fife. It was brought hither a few years ago, together with the ashes of the deceased, from the family burying-place, in the aisle of Cullen. In this monument is rudely sculptured the figure of a warrior in full coat of armour, with this inscription, "Hic jacet Johanes Duf. de Maldavat. et Baldavi. obiit 2 Julii. 1404," &c.*.

The monument of greatest antiquity in the church, seems to be that in Lord Banff's aisle, with the following inscription:

Ano Dni 1558. 29 Nove
Obiit. Valterus. Ogilvy. de. Dvnlgvs. Miles:
Preposit^s. Huj^s. Urbis, &c †.

Castle

* The late reverend and ingenious Mr Gordiner, of this place, in the 24th number of his Remarkable Ruins, &c. in North Britain, has given an elegant delineation of this ancient monument, accompanied with a short description of it, and of the other monuments in Lord Fife's Mausoleum.

† As a specimen of the versification of ancient epitaphs in this parish, the following are subjoined:

Lo,

Castle of Banff.—The Castle of Banff was a constabulary of old, such as Cullen, Elgin, Forres, and Nairn. It was a place of strength, and said to be occasionally the residence of the King, when visiting this part of his dominions. In his Majesty's absence, it was the messuage of the thane, sheriff, or constable, and the seat where justice was administered.

By the public records it appears, that Walter de Leslie obtained a charter, dated at Perth, 1364, of many lands, among others, of Blairhinnoch in this parish, for furnishing to the King a soldier to attend him, at three head courts: "*Apud Castrum de Banffe.*" The office of sheriff continued annexed to the castle till 1636, when the sheriffdom was resigned by the Earl of Buchan to Sir James Baird of Auchmedden; and the castle to Mr Sharp, father of the Archbishop of St Andrew's.

In 1683 Sir — Sharp of Stonyhill disposed the Castle of Banff to Provost Leslie of Kininvie, from whom the family of Findlater afterwards derived their right of property.

The

Lo, here interred, lies the precious dust of that renowned — *Defaced.*

Soul saving Seton, *Obit. Valerius. Ogly. de.*

Preacher in this Town,

The Key of Knowledge,

And Glory of the Gown.

Date defaced.

On John Andrew, town-clerk of Banff, anno 16—.

Here lies a Man whose Tongue and Pen

Did what they could to profit Men,

His life did prove most Christian,

So rests, to rise to Glorie again.

In the church-yard is a handsome pyramidical monument, with an elegant inscription on white marble, to the memory of the late Admiral Gordon and his son.

The castle and adjoining grounds hold of the Crown blench, and pay neither cefs, ftipend, nor any burden whatever. The fheriff's office was refigned in 1681, by Baird of Auchmedden, to the Earl of Findlater, who enjoyed the right till the abolition of heritable jurisdictions in 1748.

Part of the ancient wall is yet entire; and the remains of the moat and intrenchments are ftill vifible.

Excepting a fmall adjoining houfe, the refidence of Archbishop Sharp's father, the caftle is now a plain modern building*. Its fituation is uncommonly pleafing and romantic, and few dwellings can boast of a greater variety of charming profpects.

In the caftle are fome good paintings and prints; particularly a picture of the celebrated Jamiefon, by his own hand. He is reprefented fitting in his painting chamber, with his hat on, and his pallet before him. On the walls of his room feem carelefsly to be hung feveral productions of his various pencil.

Near to the caftle was fituated the chaplainry of the Holy Rood, or *Sancti Crucis*, confecrated in commemoration of our Saviour's fufferings. At what period, or by what founder, this chapel was erected, no information can be derived, either from tradition or ancient record. From an old register of the town-council, 1544, we learn, that this religious houfe lay within the liberties of the burgh, and comprehended, "*terras pifcatorias vocatas vulgariter Fifher's Lands,*

* This was long the refidence of the late Countefs Dowager of Findlater, a lady not more diftinguifhed by her high rank, than by the unaffuming manners, and unwearied benevolence, which adorned her character.

She had, indeed,

————— a tear for pity, and a hand

Open as day to melting charity.

"Lands, ex boreali, et occidentali partibus montis Castri de Banff."*

The Castle of Inchdrewer, on the estate of Lord Banff, is situated on a fine rising ground, about four miles south-west of the town. It is still entire and habitable. By the stile of its architecture, it seems to have been built about the time of King James IV. or V. This is the opinion of the celebrated Grose, who in his book of Antiquities has given a correct view of this castle †.

Two fields, near the confines of this parish, are distinguished by the names of Arrdane and Swordane. Whether these have ever been the scenes of battle, and derived their names from the arrows and swords of the Danes, must be left to more able antiquaries to explore and determine.

Population.—The writer of this report is not possessed of materials sufficient to enable him to ascertain, with precision, the number of inhabitants in this parish at former periods. It is obvious, however, that the great increase of buildings, in different parts of the town, has occasioned a proportionable increase of population.

It appears from a list drawn up by the late minister, in the year 1782, that the numbers in the town then were 2380. By a very accurate roll made up 1797, the number is,

In the town,	2860
Country district,	650
	3510

The

* The great causes assigned for this foundation, were, "the veneration of the provosts, et ad extirpandum heresum dicti conventi, et propitio magni Dei, et promotam orthodoxam fidem."

† Sir George Ogilvie of Dunlugas, who was created a Baronet by King Charles I. on 10th July 1627, in the same year obtained a charter under the

The following is an abstract of marriages and births in the whole parish, from 1791 to 1797 inclusive.

Years.	Marriages.	Births.
1791	33	46
92	33	51
93	19	59
94	22	48
95	18	44
96	12	35
97	39	36

Average of marriages, - - - 25 $\frac{1}{7}$

— of births, - - - 44 $\frac{1}{7}$

No authentic register of burials has been kept for several years.

It is believed that the population in the country district of the parish has rather decreased, and for which, nearly the same causes may be assigned with those detailed in various Statistical Reports.

Parents are sometimes negligent in recording the names of their children in the parish register. Since the late enrolment for the militia, when the inconvenience of such neglect was often felt, the people are become more attentive in this respect.

Longevity.—Although there are no instances of remarkable longevity in this parish, many of the inhabitants attain a good old age. A tradesman lately died, in full possession of his faculties, long past his ninetieth year. During the

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present

the Great Seal, of the lands of the barony of Inchdrewer. He was afterwards raised to the dignity of peerage, by the title of Lord Ogilvie of Banff, by letters patent to him and the heirs-male of his body, dated 31st August 1642.

present week, (the first of the year 1798), have died four respectable characters, whose joint ages amounted to 314 years.—The writer of this Report baptized a child about 18 months ago, whose mother, grandmother, great grandfather, and great great grandmother, (five generations in a direct line), are all alive.

Air, Climate, Diseases, &c.—If the situation of Banff is considered with regard to those circumstances which have an influence on the health of the inhabitants, there are many advantages in this view which it possesses in an eminent degree.

The town stands on a rising ground, and the houses in general are built on a dry hard stratum, in many places intermixed with sand.

Such a situation is certainly more favourable to a free circulation of air than a dead flat; and the dry foundation of the houses prevents those deleterious consequences which arise from breathing within doors a damp unwholesome atmosphere. From the river, flowing immediately below the town, there are no swamps in its neighbourhood; nor in any direction around it are there any stagnating waters, whose noxious effluvia might prove injurious to health. Thus, from local situation, are the inhabitants exempted from a source of contagion, whence intermittents, and many low fevers, derive their origin. On the other hand, as the town lies open to the north and north-east, the cold winds of these points, blowing immediately from the sea, renders the inhabitants of this place liable to rheumatism, coughs, pectoral complaints, sore throats, and inflammatory fevers. The fevers of a different complexion, which sometimes prevail, are to be considered, upon the most probable and rational principles, as originating from irregularities in living, from contagion, and, among the lower class of people, from small,

small, confined, and often crowded houses, where the air breathed is foul and noxious, and from inattention to cleanliness, particularly of bed and bed-clothes, which are too seldom washed, and very rarely ventilated.

Such existing causes will, in all situations, have an influence in producing fevers of a malignant kind, or of altering the type of those which, upon their first attack, appear inflammatory.

A reformation in regard to the above particulars, as far as it could be effected, would prove of the most beneficial consequences.

The advantages attending local situation would be much improved, and rendered more complete, by conducting into the town, from springs in the neighbourhood, a sufficient supply of good wholesome water. This measure, though expensive, is practicable, and its expediency is apparent from this circumstance, that the water in general, over the whole town, is more or less hard and brackish.

Proper regulations established, enforced, and uniformly maintained, for keeping the streets perfectly clean, and free from all baneful and putrid substances, would be highly conducive to health and comfort.

An infectious fever prevailed here, with unusual violence, about the year 1782. Unwholesome food, particularly an immoderate use of potatoes, (that year of a bad kind), were among the secondary causes to which this fever was ascribed.

Mr Skene, the late minister of this parish, a gentleman alike distinguished by his great medical knowledge, and his humane gratuitous practice, wrote a small treatise on this fever, in form of a "Serious Address to the People," &c.

This short address, which Provost Robinson was at the expence of printing and publishing, contained several plain sensible instructions respecting the prevention and treatment of the disease, and points out the means by which health
may

may be preserved from every disorder of an infectious nature*.

Inoculation.—The practice of inoculation for the small-pox is by no means become general among the lower ranks. The too tender consciences of the superstitious interpose, to rob them of its salutary benefits. We tempt God, say they, by voluntarily bringing on a disease which we might possibly have escaped: We throw ourselves in the way of danger; we distrust the Providence of Almighty God, who is all-sufficient to deliver us.

These words have, indeed, the appearance and the voice of piety, but they have nothing else. There are few of the actions of life to which the objection might not more or less apply. Does not the man, for instance, equally tempt God, who, apprehending a mortification in one of his limbs, submits to lose it by the operation of a surgeon. Perhaps the dreaded mortification might not have taken place, and the patient sacrifices his life to his timid caution. Yet no man of common sense will dispute, that the practice of amputation is salutary on the whole, and is the means of preserving many valuable lives to the community†.

Mineral

* Among other advices, Mr Skene strenuously recommends great attention to cleanliness, washing the chamber of the sick person with soap and hot water, and, upon recovery of the patient, that his apartment should be white-washed with lime, fresh slacked, laid on hot, and the windows opened every day.

† The deaths by the natural small-pox are generally allowed to be in the proportion of one in six, in seven at the very least, but oftener one in five.

Now, I presume it will be thought moderate to compute, that not above one in forty escape having the distemper, during the course of their lives. Let it be observed, then, in the first place, there are thirty-nine to one

Mineral Springs.—As a matter connected with the health of the inhabitants of this place, and, under proper management, beneficial to the public at large, it may be proper to mention a powerful chalybeat spring, (the Well of Boindie), within two short miles of Banff.

In chronic cases, attended with debility and relaxation, where tonic medicines are admissible, the water is used with manifest advantage; but, unfortunately, this well is considered by the country people at large as a Panacea, and resorted to as such by great numbers, afflicted with diseases very opposite in their natures. The result is what may naturally be inferred; many are cured or relieved, while others return not only disappointed of expected benefit, but suffering under aggravated complaints. They sometimes, too, place as much dependence on the quantity, as on the quality, of the water. Having but little time to spare to the fashionable avocations of a watering-place, they are very diligent during their stay, and are often known to swallow three

one against escaping the infection; and then there are only five chances in favour of a person escaping with life. The whole chances in his favour, therefore, are but five and one-fortieth, or six at most; whereas, by authentic accounts of some late general inoculations, it appears, that out of 416 only one died. On other occasions the proportion has been one in 500. A risk scarcely to be accounted for, when we consider what different constitutions must exist among such a number of patients, and the strong probability of the death of fully that number, among so many infants, from other disorders, if inoculation had been entirely out of the question. See an admirable Sermon on the Lawfulness of Inoculation, by G. Gregory, F. A. S. author of *Essays Historical and Moral*.

A surgeon in the north, presuming that self-interest has a stronger hold on man than superstition, has lately opened a policy of insurance for the small-pox! If a subscriber gives him two guineas for inoculating his child, the surgeon, in the event of the child's death, pays ten guineas to the parent. For every guinea subscribed, four guineas; for one half guinea, two guineas; and for a crown, one guinea.

three gallons a-day of the salutiferous stream, besides a reasonable potion of sea-water.

Roads and Bridges.—The post-road, as far as it extends through this parish, is kept in excellent repair. The roads leading to the inland parts of the country, being less attended to, are not in such good order. The proposed establishment of turnpikes must contribute much to the general improvement of this country. If the line is adhered to, which is already marked out in the surveyor's plan, the new road from Banff to Turreff, though not much shortened in point of distance, will oft beguile the traveller of his time, by the varied and beautiful scenery which will occupy his attention.

The former fine bridge over the Doveran was swept away by a violent flood in 1768. Another has since been built, at the expence of Government, a little higher up the river, where it is supposed to be less in danger from the rise of the water. It is a handsome structure, consisting of seven arches *.

Harbour and Shipping.—Of old, boats and trading vessels lay within the river, extending along the banks where the bulwark now is.

We learn from tradition, that the course of the Doveran, near its influx, was considerably more eastward than at present. It is said to have emptied itself at the Craig of Down, now Macduff.

The

* As an instance of the accuracy of some modern travellers, a large quarto journal, lately published, informs us, that in Banff there is a fine bridge of *nine* arches over the river *Dive*. The river is sometimes spelled Doveran, and sometimes Deveron. In the Gaelic language it signifies the *Black Water*, and is so named towards its source in Aberdeenshire.

The traditional report is corroborated by some ancient grants in favour of the Earl of Buchan, in which are specified "the salmon-fishings at the mouth of the river, and in "the sea," *jacentes apud Down*.

That piece of low ground on the east side of the river, called the Gaws, now a part of Lord Fife's pleasure-grounds, was lately the property of the town, is still within the royalty, and, it is highly presumable, formerly lay on the west bank of the river, which divided the earldom of Buchan from the county of Banff. The river, indeed, seems frequently to have altered its course; sometimes passing in a straight line through the beach, and at other times winding to the west, near the Castlehill, where it now runs, and which has been its channel for several years past.

The stream has sometimes been so small, as not to have currency sufficient to keep the passage open, the water oozing through the bank of gravel, and preventing the entrance and departure of the smallest boat.

Hence arose the necessity of building a harbour in a more convenient situation. It was begun so early as the year 1625, westward of the river mouth. The attempt was frequently frustrated, and as often resumed. After various interruptions, and repeated applications to Parliament, and to the Convention of Burghs *, the work was finished about the

* The Convention of Burghs appointed the Commissioners from Aberdeen, Elgin, Inverness, &c. as a Committee, to examine and report the true state of the harbour, &c. Accordingly, these Commissioners met at Banff, and reported, "That the trade appeared for years past to increase: "That the merchants had very enterprising genius, but discouraged by the "bar on the mouth of the river, insomuch, that it often happened from "Candlemas to Martinmas the water mouth was in no condition to receive "a boat; and that the last season, three ships, after being loaded, were "locked in by the bank of gravel, so that 20 coaches might pass in a breast "dry: And farther declared, That the place was exceedingly well situated
" for

the year 1775, and is now a most useful and commodious harbour.

The shipping belonging to this port are at present 22 sail; of which 8 are brigantines, from 100 to 210 tons each; and 14 sail are sloops, chiefly of 60, 80 and 100 tons.

Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Men.
22	1943	137

Some of these vessels are employed in the London trade.

Shipbuilding is carried on here with success. One builder, eminent in his profession, usually employs 12 men, and has just finished a fine brigantine of 190 tons*.

Trade and Commerce.—The state of the trade and commerce of this town may be judged of from the preceding Table of the shipping, and from the following Abstract Accounts of the Imports and Exports, &c. from the 5th January 1795 to the 5th of January 1797, inclusive.

ABSTRACT

“ for trade, the piers good, water deep, and access easy with northerly
“ winds; adding, that, from Aberdeen to Inverness, there is not a harbour
“ that any ship dared venture, when the wind blew hard from that *airth*.”

At this harbour the burghesses and landholders of the town have the privilege of importing freestone and slate without payment of shore-dues; and for other articles they only pay the half of the usual allowance of harbour dues.

* The distressing intelligence has been lately received, of the total loss of one of these sloops, of 70 tons, with 6 men.

Port of BANFF.—ABSTRACT ACCOUNT of Goods imported, brought and sent Coast-ways, to and from this Port, from 5th January 1795 to 5th January 1797.

Year ending 5th January 1796.	Iron Bars.	Salmon Barrels.	Butter and Cheese Cwt.	Salmon Kitts.	Meal Quar- ters.	Barley Quar- ters.	Oats Quar- ters.	Cod & Ling fish. No.
Foreign trade in-wards,	3880	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coast trade out-wards,	-	122	434	1412	2361	2196	3490	5500
Ditto inwards,	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Year ending 5th January 1797.								
Foreign trade in-wards,	3550	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coast trade out-wards,	-	123	701	732	6897	255	600	54,400
Ditto inwards,	394	-	-	-	370	100	70	-

Year ending 5th January 1796.	Wheat Quar- ters.	Flour Bush- els.	Wool Cwt.	Bricks No.	Tiles No.	Spirits Gal- lons.	Wine Gal- lons.	Salt Bush- els.
Foreign trade in-wards,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coast trade out-wards,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ditto inwards,	-	815	226	11,800	2500	5258	2426	7766
Year ending 5th January 1797.								
Foreign trade in-wards,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coast trade out-wards,	170	-	-	5600	46,645	-	-	-
Ditto inwards,	-	995	210	2000	-	1576	3420	8094

N. B. Very little foreign trade since the commencement of the war.

Manufactures.—The thread and linen manufactures were carried on here, a few years ago, to a very great extent.

For the thread manufacture alone 3500 mats of Dutch flax were annually imported; which, at an average of L. 3, 5 s. each, cost upwards of L. 11,000 Sterling. The operation of milling and heckling employed about 60 men. When given out to spin, it afforded employment for 4000 individuals; yielded 150,000 spindles of yarn, which circulated about L. 10,000 among the spinners. The doubling and twisting the yarn, which was done in Banff, employed about 200 women and children, and at the bleachfield, engaged the labour and attention of 40 people more. These threads, when sent to Nottingham or Leicester, were valued at L. 30,000 Sterling.

This productive and useful branch has since given place to the stocking manufacture, which is also conducted on a very extensive scale by Messrs Robinsons.

The stockings are wove on a highly improved frame, of which these gentlemen are the sole patentees.

They have 150 of these frames, for the manufacturing of silk, cotton, and worsted stockings. From the nature of the work, and the advanced state of the mechanical arts, which has necessarily abridged human labour, this manufacture does not offer employment to such numbers as the branch formerly mentioned. In the several departments of the work, however, about 560 persons of different descriptions are constantly engaged.

Young

It is a curious circumstance, and perhaps but little known, that the chief consumption of pickled salmon, when first in season, and when prices are high, is by the lowest classes of the people in London. The middle ranks, and those immediately above them, abstain generally from such indulgences until the prices are moderate. See an admirable treatise on the Police of the Metropolis, by P. Colquhoun, Esq; L. L. D. late Provost of Glasgow, and now one of the Magistrates of the Police for London.

Young men, from 14 to 16 years of age, will sometimes make 40 pairs worsted stockings in one week, and at the usual hours allotted to labour. These stockings generally sell at 3 s. 6 d. a pair.

The medium gain of the frame-worker may amount to 7 s. 6 d. or 8 s. a week.

The worsted is chiefly spun on the two-handed Leicestershire wheel.

A woman who is a diligent and capable spinner, will earn from 5 s. to 6 s. weekly. The average gains are from 2 s. 6 d. to 3 s.

A considerable quantity of the stockings are disposed of in wholesale, to the shopkeepers in the town and country; but the principal market for the manufacture is London.

The linen trade is still continued, though on a more contracted scale than formerly. This branch may now employ about 20 weavers.

Soap and Candles.—A soap and candle work, belonging to a company in Banff, employs a manager and four men, and pays annually to Government L. 500 Sterling.

Brewery.—The brewing of ale, beer, and porter, is carried on here to a considerable extent. The annual consumption of barley is generally 1200 bolls; and the duty to Government L. 700. The number of hands employed amount to eight. The strong beer has long been in high repute, and in great demand, from various and distant parts of the country. The porter, when kept in bottle about a year, is sufficiently palatable, and has been known sometimes to deceive the taste of a connoisseur in that wholesome beverage.

Statistical Account

Rope and Sail Manufacture has for some time been carried on here, though not to great extent.

Brick and Tile Work.—The late Dr Saunders of this place, a gentleman of enterprising spirit, established, several years ago, a brick and tile work on his farm, about two miles from the town. It is still carried on with success, (and on an extensive plan), by his son. The work possesses great advantages from its local situation, having the command of a small harbour for the importation of coals, and for exporting part of the produce of the manufacture. Mr Saunders generally employs eight or nine men, besides an overseer.

A brickwork on a smaller scale has lately been set on foot in the vicinity of the town.

In the various branches of mechanical industry, this town can boast of several eminent workmen; but on this article the limits of a Statistical Report do not allow of a minute detail.

Markets.—There is a regular weekly market. It is held on Friday, and is well supplied with provisions of all kinds. There are also in Banff three annual fairs.

Post-Office.—The revenue arising from the Post-Office has increased since the establishment of a daily mail. It amounts to nearly L. 800 *per annum*.

Great hopes are entertained of a still earlier dispatch of the mails from Edinburgh, a measure which would be attended with signal advantages to the towns north of the metropolis.

Banking Offices.—The Bank of Scotland, and the Banking Company in Aberdeen, have each of them established

a branch in this town. Messrs Reid and Imlach, the agents, transact business to the extent of L. 150,000 to L. 200,000 *per annum*.

Battery.—During the late war, a small battery was erected on the high ground near the harbour. It is nearly of the half-moon construction, with turf embrasures*, and mounts two 18 pounders, and four 12 pounders, besides two field pieces.

On one side of the gateway is situated the store-house and powder-magazine, on the other a guard-room and officer's apartment.

Having an extensive command of the bay, this battery might afford protection against the depredations of a single privateer; but whether such works, thinly scattered along the coast, would prove of substantial service in the event of invasion, is a point somewhat problematical†.

Military Associations.—The Banff-shire Volunteers consist of 16 companies, under the command of Colonel the Right Honourable the Earl of Fife, Lord-lieutenant of the county.

That

* The embrasure in batteries is now condemned by able engineers, and the low parapet recommended in its room, so that the guns may be pointed in any direction within the scope of the work.

† Colonel Dirom, a native of this town, in his ingenious "Plans for the Defence of Great Britain," &c. observes, "Indeed it is impossible to line the coast of an extensive country in such a manner with batteries, as to protect it from an invading enemy; for they can be placed in few situations in which they may not be avoided: and if otherwise, the guns in them are generally so unwieldy and difficult to traverse, that they may be approached and stormed without much danger to the assailants. Batteries ought therefore to be erected with great caution, and perhaps only in situations strong by nature, where they may not easily be surprised or attacked on the land-side."

That part of the corps more particularly attached to the town of Banff, comprehends the numbers following, viz.:

	Colonel,	-	-	1
	Lieutenant-colonel,	-	-	1
	Major,	-	-	1
	Captains,	-	-	7
	1st Lieutenants,	-	-	9
	2d Lieutenants,	-	-	9
Staff.	Chaplain,	-	-	1
	Adjutant,	-	-	1
	Quarter-master,	-	-	1
	Surgeon,	-	-	1
	Sergeants,	-	-	36
	Drummers,	-	-	18
	Rank and file,	-	-	614
	Total effective,	-	-	700

Of these, 4 companies are stationed in the town of Banff,

- 1 in Macduff,
- 1 at Rothiemay,
- 1 at Grange,
- 1 at Portsoy,
- 1 at Cullen.

Total, 9

The Strathalvah and Boyn Volunteers, including officers, consist of 222

The Enzie Volunteers, 296

Total in the county of Banff, 1218

The first companies of the Banff Volunteers were offered and accepted in November 1794; but a certain number of men had previously, and from the commencement of the present

present war, been trained to the exercise of the great guns at the battery.

Besides the Volunteer Corps, there were returned to the Privy Council, by the Lieutenancy of the county, upon the 29th day of September last, 45 men from this parish, as falling within the description comprehended in the late Militia Act.

Schools.—The public schools of Banff, which are entirely under the direction of the Magistrates, (for there is no parochial establishment), were connected together, and converted into an academy, in the year 1786. The several arrangements in this academy were made, and the teachers recommended by Dr George Chapman*, formerly rector of the Grammar-school at Dumfries, and who for some years superintended the establishments for education in this place.

The plan of instruction which Dr Chapman laid down has been strictly adhered to by the different teachers, and has answered the expectations of all concerned. The seminary is at present in a flourishing state.

At the annual public examination in August 1797, the number of daily scholars amounted to 180.

The following branches of education are taught in this academy, by the head master and four assistants :

I. The Classics, Latin and Greek, with geography, and the principles of rhetoric.

II. Writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, mensuration, algebra, practical geometry, and navigation.

III. The French and English languages, &c.

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By

* Dr Chapman was born in this neighbourhood. His extensive knowledge as a scholar, and his merit as an author on Education, are well known.

By the care and exertions of the late minister, a charity school was founded some years ago, for the poor children of the town and parish. The numbers usually attending this school are from 25 to 30 children. They are taught to read, and instructed in the principles of religious knowledge. For securing an annual and permanent salary of L. 20 to a well qualified teacher, the sum of L. 400 was sunk in the hands of the Magistrates. This fund was raised by the voluntary contributions of the landholders, the inhabitants, and occasional visitants, and by appropriating, with consent of the heritors, L. 200 of the poor's money.

The girls attending the school are furnished with easy and profitable work, by spinning wool for Messrs Robinsons stocking manufacture*.

The provost, minister, and rector of the academy, are the patrons of this school.

Besides these, there are two English schools, in different parts of the town. The teachers, having no stated salaries, depend entirely on the fees paid by the scholars.

Boarding Schools for young Ladies.—Here, too, are reputable boarding-schools, for the education of young ladies. One of these is conducted by Misses Mitchels from England,

The principles on which this academy is conducted, are contained in Dr Chapman's Treatise on Education, a fifth edition of which is lately published, and much approved of by the Reviewers.

To this edition the author has given a short supplement, containing useful Observations on two Essays on Education lately published. He has subjoined further Thoughts on the Instruction necessary for the lower ranks of the People; on the appointment of Parochial Schoolmasters, and on the Encouragement they ought to receive.

* Besides a small fund belonging to this school, there is a public annual collection made, for defraying the expences of some necessary clothing to the poorer children.

land, who have lately settled here, and whose superior accomplishments fully qualify them for superintending such an institution.

At the other boarding-school, a qualified governess from Edinburgh assists in the education of the young ladies.

Comparative Statement, &c.—It may prove entertaining to some readers to trace the progress of luxury in this parish, and mark a few of the most striking changes of half a century.

1748

A gown of linsley-woolsey was the usual dress of a laird's daughter, Veild in a simple robe, her best attire,

Beyond the pomp of dress.—

THOMSON.

Her mother, indeed, who was dignified with the knightly title of lady, appeared on great occasions in a silk gown, and fine laces, which were considered as part of the paraphernalia destined to the succeeding generation.

Ladies seldom wore any other than coloured stockings.

The town could only boast of one filken pair, and these were black.

The occupation of milliner was totally unknown.

1748. A four-wheeled carriage was a luxury seldom enjoyed, unless by the nobility.

A gentleman and his wife generally rode together on the same horse.

Drawing-rooms and dining parlours were no less rare than carriages.

1798

The decoration of our persons is now become a more general study among both sexes, and all ranks. In order to accommodate their dress to the capricious rules of fashion, there is a frequent, and some times a needless, recourse to the "foreign aid of ornament."

The art millinery affords employment and profit to many; and every trading vessel from London brings a fresh assortment of dresses, adjusted to the prevailing mode.

1798. Post-chaises are now in general use.

Several private gentlemen keep their carriages.

The pad is become the exclusive property of the country good-wife.

The minister of the parish must have his drawing-room.

Mahogany was seldom seen, save in the tea-tray, the round folding table, and the corner cup-board.

1748. When wants were fewer, and easily supplied, most of the useful articles of merchandise might be procured in the same shop. The various designations of grocer, iron-monger, and haberdasher, were little known, and almost every trader, even although he did not traffick to foreign countries, was denominated merchant.

1748. A joyous company, after dinner, have been seen quaffing the wine of a dozen bottles from a single glass.

1748. Agreeable to Queen Mary's act of Parliament, A. D. 1563, all butcher-meat was carried to market *skin and birn*, and, agreeable to custom, was sold amidst abounding filth.

1748. The annual wages of a great man's butler was about L. 8; his valet, L. 5; and his other servants, L. 3.

The farmer had his ploughman for 13 s. 4 d. in the half year, with the allowance of a pair shoes. The wages of a maid-servant, 6 s. 8 d.

1773. When Dr Johnson honoured Banff with a visit, he was pleased to observe, that the natives were more frugal of their glass, (in windows), than the English. They will often, says the Doctor, "in houses not other-

Mahogany is a species of timber in general use for articles of furniture; and the corner press is superseded by the splendid side-board.

1798. The several distinctions of tradesmen are better understood.

As ministers to our luxury, we have in the same street an oil-man, who advertised the sale of Quin sauce, Genoa capers, and Gorgona anchovies, &c.; a confectioner, whose bills contain the delectable names of non-pareils, ice-cream, and apricot jelly, &c.; and a perfumer, who deals in such rare articles, as Neapolitan cream for the face, Persian dentrifice for the teeth, and Asiatic balsam for the hair.

1798. A sober party sometimes meet, whose libation consists of a solitary bottle, with a dozen glasses.

1798. There are convenient slaughter-houses apart, and meat is brought to market seemly, and in good order.

1798. The nobleman pays at least in a quadruple ratio for his servants.

The wages of a ploughman vary from L. 10 to L. 12, and of a maid-servant from L. 3 to L. 3, 10 s. *per annum*.

1798. Many of our windows are furnished with weights and pullies. We think of the necessity of ventilating human habitations, where we may enjoy the luxury of fresh air, without resorting to the contrivance

"wife mean, compose a square of two
 "pieces, not joining like cracked glass,
 "but with one edge laid perhaps half
 "an inch over the other. Their win-
 "dows do not move upon hinges, but
 "are pushed up and drawn down in
 "grooves. He that would have his
 "window open, must hold it with
 "his hand, unless, what may some-
 "times be found among good contri-
 "vers, there be a nail, which he may
 "stick into a hole, to keep it from
 "falling *."

of a nail, and with very little assist-
 ance from the hand.

**Comparative Statement of the Prices of Cattle, Sheep, Pro-
 visions, &c. at the above periods.**

1748	1798
A draught ox, L. 1:13:4.	L. 15, L. 20, and L. 25.
20 Sheep, small size, L. 4.	L. 12.
Beef and mutton, one penny, and three halfpence a pound.	Beef and mutton, 5½ d. and 6 d. per lb.
A hen, together with a dozen eggs, 4 d.	Hen, without eggs, 1 s. and 1 s. 3 d.
Dozen eggs, 1 d.	4 d. and 6 d.
Goose, 2 s. a pair.	5 s. 6 d.
Turkey, 3 s. ditto.	7 s.
Pigeons, three halfpence ditto.	6 d.
14 Haddocks, three halfpence:	1 s. 6 d.
Claret sold at 1 s. a bottle.	Claret sells in the tavern at 6 s.

Disadvantages.—Among the disadvantages which this town suffers in a commercial view, the principal seems to be the want of a customhouse.

At present, no goods can be shipped or landed, nor any vessels sail from this port, without procuring the usual per-
 mit

* In justice to Dr Johnson, let it be remembered, that he acknowledged
 "these diminutive observations detract from the dignity of writing, and
 "therefore he communicated them with hesitation and dread."

To lay down rules calculated on liberal principles, for the conduct which is becoming the character and description of the worthy farmer, that when he proceeds meritoriously, he may be protected; when he approves himself a useful member, he may be rewarded; and when he is the object of undeserved persecution, that he may be supported. Such are the laudable and professed designs of this Society. It is composed of the noblemen, and many of the respectable gentlemen, and of the principal farmers, of this county.

The president of the society is an honorary member of the national "Board of Agriculture."

The funds of the society arise from admission fees, and a small annual stipulated exaction from each member. They have three stated annual meetings, generally held in the Mason Hall of Banff.

Friendly Societies.—Besides St Andrews Lodge of Free Masons, and the Operative Mason Lodge, there are several friendly societies established in Banff.

I. Solomon's Lodge, or the Gardener Friendly Society, was instituted in April 1778. It consists of 500 members. Their funds are in a flourishing state. They are possessed of houses and lands in the town and vicinity, which yield a yearly rent of L. 80 Sterling. To the widows of decayed brethren, last year, they paid upwards of L. 60 Sterling.

II. The Grey-stone Friendly Society, was established in the year 1792. The benefit of this institution is not confined to any particular description of persons or professions. Their funds, it is believed, are in a progressive state of improvement.

These, and some other societies belonging to particular corporations, prove of substantial advantage in this place,
by

by aiding the poor's funds of the parish, and administering relief to many individuals.

Public Amusements.—During the winter season, there are dancing assemblies once a-fortnight.

Occasionally we have academical concerts of music.

Sometimes the heroes and heroines of the Sock and Bunkin favour us with a visit, and fret a few of their summer hours on our little stage.

Circulating Library.—Banff affords a choice circulating library, which, besides the usual *light summer reading* of the times, contains a select collection of the works of eminent writers, both ancient and modern.

From our constant intercourse with London by sea, we have early access to the periodical and other publications of the day.

The Reviews we generally receive from the bookseller here, in the course of the month succeeding their publication in London.

A Book Society is at present forming, on a liberal plan, to consist of 20 gentlemen.

Eminent Men.—Under this article may be mentioned the Bairs of Auchmedden, a very ancient and respectable family, long resident in Banff*.

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3 A

1568.

* There is a tradition, that as King William the Lion was hunting in one of the south-west counties, and straggling from his attendants, he was alarmed at the approach of a wild bear, and called out for assistance. Upon this, a gentleman of the name of Baird, who had followed the King, came up, and had the good fortune to slay the bear. For which signal service, the King made a considerable addition to the lands he had formerly given him, and assigned him for his coat of arms, a *boar passant*, and for his motto, *Dominus fecit*. It is further said, that one foot of the animal

1568. George Baird being connected by marriage, and in habits of great friendship, with the Regent, Earl of Moray, received from him a disposition, heritable and irredeemable, to the lands of Auchmedden; the Regent assigning the following cause: "for many acts of utility and friendship done to me, and many sums of money given out by him, in my service."

1647. James Baird was bred to the law, and became a person of high reputation in his profession. King Charles I. reposed great confidence in him, and appointed him sole Commissary of the Ecclesiastical Court of Scotland, an employment in those days of great honour and trust.

The King issued his warrant for creating him a peer, by the title of Lord Doveran; but Mr Baird died before the patent passed the seals. He was married to the sister of John Dempster, so remarkable for his disputations in the foreign schools.

1593. Andrew having received an university education in Scotland, went over to France to finish his studies; became one of the best scholars in that kingdom, and was made a Professor of Sciences at Lyons*.

1650. John his eldest son was also bred to the law, and after travelling much in foreign countries, became a man of great knowledge in his profession. On the Restoration, he was created a Knight, and was soon after appointed one of the

was brought north by an ancestor of Baird of Ordinhives, and is still preserved. The arms and motto are to be seen on an ancient monument belonging to the family of Auchmedden, in the church-yard of Banff.

* Gilbert, Andrew's brother, married the heiress of Ordinhives, in this county, anno 1578, and had by her thirty-two children, the greater part of whom lived to the age of maturity.

the Senators of the College of Justice, by the title of Lord Newbyth.

1658. Sir James Baird, High Sheriff of Banff, was much respected for his abilities, integrity, and address. In 1662 he received several marks of the King's favour; among others, the following honourable declaration and acquittal, for acting in the above office during the Usurpation.

“Whereas, We are certainly informed, that the office of
“the Sheriffship of Our county of Banff, was, by the late
“Usurper, put upon Our lovite Sir James Baird of Auch-
“medden; that he only exercised the samen during the
“year of the great transactions of Our Restoration, where-
“in, as the said Sir James was contributive and active, so
“We are fully satisfied of his conduct and loyal affection to
“Our Person and Government, and therefore declare him
“free of all censure, &c. &c.”

Superfigned CHARLES, and subscribed LAUDERDALE.

Sir James was employed by the Duke of Lauderdale, to draw up a rational plan for the union of the two kingdoms. He accordingly prepared such plan, which was so highly approved of, that the King became desirous of carrying it into execution; but it is believed the Duke of Lauderdale, Secretary of State for Scotland, was not a sincere friend to the measure*.

Of the same family was the celebrated Bayardo, an Italian poet, who wrote Orlando Innamorata, which Ariosto made the ground-work of his Orlando Furioso.

This parish gave birth to Dr James Sharp Archbishop of St Andrews, and Primate of Scotland, whose tragical end exhibits

* The account of the family of Auchmedden is collected from an old manuscript received from Mr Rose of Mountcoffer, to whom the writer acknowledges himself also indebted for several other communications in compiling this work.

bits a melancholy instance of the furious and misguided zeal of ancient times. He was the son of Mr Sharp, Sheriff-Clerk of Banff-shire. His mother was a daughter of the Laird of Kininvy. He was born May 1613, in the Castle of Banff.

He gave early proofs of a superior genius, and excelled all his school-fellows in the rudiments of learning.

Having completed his course of academical study with great applause, at the University of Aberdeen, he took the degree of Master of Arts, and was enrolled a Student of Divinity. By the interest of the Earl of Rothes, to whom he was related, Mr Sharp was elected one of the Professors of Philosophy in St Leonard's College, St Andrews, and soon after was appointed minister of Crail.

In that remarkable division of the Presbyterians into two parties, Public Resolutioners and Remonstrators, he espoused the cause of the former. To such height were their disputes carried, as to induce the contending parties to lay their complaints before Oliver Cromwell, the Protector.

Mr Sharp being chosen Resolutionary agent, on that occasion acquitted himself with so much temper and dexterity, that Cromwell seemed convinced by the strength of his arguments, and was so impressed with his insinuating manner and address, that he pleasantly observed to some persons near him, "This gentleman, to use a Scotch phrase, "may well be stiled Sharp of that Ilk."

In May 1660, Mr Sharp, at the earnest desire of General Monk and the leading Presbyterians in Scotland, went over to King Charles at Breda, to represent their conduct, and to learn his Majesty's disposition towards them.

During his absence, he was chosen Professor of Divinity in Mary's College, St Andrews; and before he left London, the

the King, as a mark of his royal favour, made him his Chaplain for Scotland, with a pension of L. 200.

In April 1661, he accompanied the Earl of Glencairn, Chancellor, and the Earl of Rothes, President of the Council, to London, to lay before the King an account of the state of affairs in Scotland.

In a council held at Whitehall soon after, Mr Sharp was nominated Archbishop of St Andrews. A resolution having been formed to fill up all the other vacant sees, the choice of proper persons was left to the new Archbishop, who, (according to his inveterate enemy Bishop Burnet), acted in this instance with great moderation. One of his first official acts, after his preferment to the Archiepiscopal See, was, obtaining a proclamation prohibiting the meeting of clergymen in presbyteries or other church judicatories, until the Bishops arranged a plan for their procedure.

This, and some other rigorous measures, raised against him an host of enemies, several of whom bound themselves by solemn vow to sacrifice him to the sufferings of their party. They at length accomplished their horrid purpose by assassination, attended with circumstances of savage barbarity*.

The

* The following letter from Sir William Sharp of Stonyhill, containing a detail of the shocking circumstances attending his father's murder, was addressed to Sir James Baird, at Banff. It is a genuine copy, and appears never to have been published.

"Honoured Sir,

"THIS horrid and stupenduous murder has so confounded me, that I
 "am not able to give a suitable return to your excellent and kind letter.
 "What I have learnt of that execrable deed, is, that on Friday, the 2d of
 "this instant month, my worthy father crossed the water; lay at Kenno-
 "way all night, next morning set out for St Andrews. Being two miles
 "off, 27 of those villainous regicides had a full view of the coach, and not
 "finding

The character of this prelate has been differently represented by different historians. While Bishop Burnet writes of him with the pen of severe obloquy, another of his biographers

“ finding the opportunity, divided into three parties, which took up the
 “ three ways he could take homewards. Nine of them assaulted the coach
 “ within two miles of this place, by discharging their pistols, and securing
 “ his servants. The coachman drove on for half-a-mile, until one of his
 “ horses was wounded in three places, and the postilion wounded in the
 “ hand. Then they fired several shot at the coach, and commanded my
 “ dearest father to come out, which he said he would. When he had
 “ come out, (not being yet wounded), he said, Gentlemen, I beg my life.
 “ No ! bloody villain, betrayer of the cause of Christ, No mercy ! Then,
 “ said he, I ask none for myself, but have mercy on my poor child, (his el-
 “ dest daughter was in the coach with him), and holding out his hand to
 “ one of them, to get his, that he would spare his child, he cut him in the
 “ wrist. Then falling down upon his knees, and holding up his hands, he
 “ prayed that God would forgive them ; and, begging mercy for his sins
 “ from his Saviour, they murdered him, by sixteen great wounds, in his
 “ back, head, and one above his left eye, three in his left hand, when he
 “ was holding them up, with a shot above his right breast, which was
 “ found to be powder. After this damnable deed, they took the papers out
 “ of his pocket, robbed my sister and their servants of all their papers, gold
 “ and money ; and one of these hellish rascals cut my sister in the thumb,
 “ when she had him by the bridle, begging her father’s life. God, of his
 “ infinite mercy support this poor family, under this dreadful and unsup-
 “ portable case, and give us to know why God is thus angry with us,
 “ and earnestly beg not to consume us in his wrath, but now that his anger
 “ may cease, and he may be at peace with us, through the blood of a re-
 “ conciled Saviour ; and also may have pity upon this poor distressed
 “ Church, and that he may be the last sacrifice for it, as he is the first Pro-
 “ testant Martyr Bishop in such a way.

“ Dear Sir, as my worthy father had alway a kindness and particular
 “ esteem for yourself, son, and family, so I hope you will be friendly to his
 “ son, who shall ever continue, worthy Sir, your most faithful, &c. &c.

“ W. SHARP.”

“ ST ANDREWS, 10th May 1679, }

“ $\frac{1}{2}$ hour after receipt of your’s. }

“ On Saturday next is the funeral.”

graphers has drawn his character in terms of unqualified praise.

In his more humble situation, as minister of Crail, we are told he approved himself a diligent and faithful pastor, and by his mildness, condescension, and affability, acquired the love of his people.

But a sudden elevation to great rank and power seems to have a baneful influence on the human heart, and it must be admitted, that the Archbishop of St Andrews did not add one to the few instances of strict moderation in that dangerous sphere. In his official capacity, he was violent in the exercise of his power, and, like most other proselytes, he became the persecutor of his deserted brethren.

Yet his inveterate enemies are agreed in ascribing to him the high praise of a beneficent and humane disposition. He bestowed a considerable part of his income in ministering to pressing indigence, and relieving the wants of silent distress. In the exercise of his charity he had no contracted views. The widows and orphans of the Presbyterian brethren richly shared of his bounty, without knowing whence it came. He died with the intrepidity of a hero, and the piety of a Christian, praying for the assassins with his latest breath*.

The late Earl of Findlater and Seafield, a nobleman of singular and extraordinary merit, resided for many years in the castle of Banff. "His Lordship employed his ample fortune in promoting trade, manufactures, agriculture, and all kinds of industry. Ever solicitous to fill his high station with real dignity, and farther to qualify himself

* The Archbishop's monument, in the Cathedral of St Andrews, is extremely magnificent, and his epitaph highly flattering. "The disputable parts of his life, (says a celebrated traveller), are fully related; his undoubted charity and deeds of alms omitted."

“ self to be more extensively useful to society, (the sole ob-
 “ ject of his ambition), he conversed much with, and great-
 “ ly honoured, men of letters, and men of ingenuity in al-
 “ most every profession, always endeavouring to convert
 “ whatever knowledge he thus acquired, to the benefit and
 “ improvement of his country.

“ His natural disposition was calm, placid, and serene, his
 “ sentiments generous and enlarged, his understanding solid
 “ and manly, and his integrity such as could not be sha-
 “ ken.” LOND. CHRON.

He died November 3. 1770.

Under this article it may not be out of place to mention
 a gentleman of Banff singularly eminent for his good for-
 tune in the lottery. In the British and Irish lotteries he has
 acquired, by the produce of three tickets, about L. 30,000
 Sterling.

Characters and Manners, &c.—To discriminate minute-
 ly the manners and characters which distinguish one society
 or parish from another; to bestow particular and appropri-
 ate praise or censure, seems the most arduous attempt of the
 Statistical historian.

The writer of this account enters on the delicate subject
 aware of its difficulty, yet encouraged by the sentiments of
 a great moralist, that the “ history which draws a portrait
 “ of living manners, may perhaps be made of greater use
 “ than the solemnities of professed morality, and convey
 “ the knowledge of vice and virtue with more efficacy than
 “ axioms and definitions*.

Banff has been for several years the general residence and
 occasional resort of many genteel, opulent, and respectable
 families;

* Rambler.

families; and in few provincial towns are the inhabitants more distinguished for general information, social intercourse, and urbanity of manners.

In their general conduct they are both "pitiful and courteous;" deserving the praise of beneficence to the poor, and hospitality to strangers.

The author of this report has had frequent opportunities of remarking their liberal and ready spirit to do good, and their willingness to communicate to every judicious and disinterested charity.

In their attendance on the ordinances of divine institution, all ranks are highly regular and exemplary.

Such laudable attention to external observances, so prevalent here, and so generally remarked, in the different Statistical Reports, though not a certain criterion, is at least a strong presumption, of the existence of internal religion among us. It is a truth, for the confirmation of which we may appeal to living history, and to the conduct of a neighbouring nation, that the decay of outward forms of worship precedes the decay of the more "weighty matters of the law, justice, mercy, faith," and leads to the dissolution of all the "charities of father, son, and brother."

In our present imperfect state, there is certain danger of religion gliding by degrees from the heart, unless invigorated by external ordinances, by a due observance of the Sabbath, by stated calls to worship, and the salutary influence of example.

That disagreement in religious opinions, which generally obtains in every numerous society, is here attended with no personal hatred, or rancorous animosity. We differ quietly, and in general maintain that meekness and moderation which sound reason approves, and Christian charity commands.

The number of those is very inconsiderable who are entangled in the sophistry of sceptical writers.

A few copies of Paine's *Age of Reason* found their way this length; but many more copies of the learned Bishop of Llandaff's admirable *Apology* soon followed*. Thus the "Bane and Antidote were both before us." The new fangled theology of Mr Paine, however captivating by its popular style, has done little harm, and the great body of the people "continue in the faith grounded and settled."

The inhabitants are also entitled to their portion of negative praise. Great crimes are happily uncommon; robberies, house-breaking, and swindling, are rarely known. The writer has not heard of an instance of any person, a native of this parish, suffering the ultimate of human punishment †.

However ungrateful the task, truth and impartiality require us to delineate the back-ground of this picture.

While here, as in every large community, there are many deserving of much commendation, for the general propriety of their conduct, some are highly reprehensible, for the vices which attach to their characters.

It may be inferred, from the short publication already alluded to, that the practice of dram-drinking, habitual swearing, and that species "of conversation admitting no defence ‡," were vices which formerly disgraced some of the

* The celebrated speech of our countryman, Mr Erskine, in the trial of Williams, likewise proves a strong shield in defending our religion against the bold attacks of Mr Paine.

† During the last rebellion in Scotland, a poor fellow from the country, whose imprudent curiosity led him to mark, by notches on his staff, the number of British ships passing in the bay, was apprehended as a spy, and hanged by the King's troops, without the formality of trial.

‡ "Immodest words admit of no defence,

"For want of decency is want of sense."

the lower orders of the people, and it is to be feared, they are vices not altogether eradicated.

But though the intemperate are still to be seen reeling from their nightly revels, and sometimes from their noon-day debauch, the use of ardent spirits is not so common as formerly.

It is apprehended, however, that this partial reformation cannot be ascribed so much to the change of inclination in those who were addicted to the practice, as to the salutary clauses introduced in the late distillery laws.

Although the great majority of the people are justly accounted conscientious, and honourable in their dealings, there are known some solitary instances of persons, who, availing themselves of the ignorance or good nature of a neighbour, do not hesitate to over-reach him in a bargain.

Notwithstanding our excellent establishments for the education of youth, it must be admitted, that the children of the poor are often suffered to follow, without controul, the bent of their own inclinations. The truth is, the care, the vigilance, and the example of the parents, are not always exerted to guide their youthful steps. But this is chiefly to be understood of the profligate poor.

The violations of certain decorum occasion too frequently to the kirk-session a multiplicity of unpleasant discussion, which might be vested with more propriety in the hands of the civil judge.

Within these few years, one or two instances of child-murder have occurred, although the unhappy mothers have hitherto escaped detection.

To this atrocious crime there is here no temptation, arising from the severity of church discipline. The disgrace of public penance has long since been abolished. The reformation of delinquents is now sought by gentler methods, by mild rebuke and admonition, while the session endeavours

your to render these private vices of individuals, as much as possible, public benefits to the poor.

Among ranks higher in the scale of society, there is perhaps too strict a conformity to the fashionable customs and manners of the age; too much attention to the pleasures of the table, and too much of refinement in many things which administer to luxury.

Although the limits which separate harmless gaiety from blameful dissipation are seldom transgressed, a grave moralist, perhaps, would venture to insinuate, that engagements in convivial festivity are, at some seasons, too incessant and too laborious. He might even farther allege, that men, not always contented with a little wine for their stomach's sake, are sometimes persuaded to increase the quantity, in order, perhaps, to "remove the natural reserve of their manner, and give a proper degree of ease and spirit to their conversation."

Were honest Mr Umphraville to pass the winter in this northern burgh, he might occasionally have reason to complain, that the drawing rooms, where, in his younger days, the ladies and gentlemen were accustomed to meet each other, were now almost totally deserted; and that, amidst the boasted refinement of modern manners, the gentlemen paid less attention to the ladies than they had done 50 years ago.*

In politics, as in religion, there subsists among us some difference of opinion, not tinged, however, with the virulence of party spirit. Here, it is believed, there are very few who may be said to belong to the order of modern Illuminati, or to the class of violent malecontents †.

His
* Mirror.

† The general good behaviour of the people of this county, in regard to the militia act, was so exemplary, as to call forth the following eulogium from

His Majesty's late gracious declaration has happily tended to diffuse greater unanimity of sentiment.

Ascribing the failure of the negotiation at Lille to its just cause, the ambitious and vindictive spirit of our enemies, that well judged appeal is calculated to rouse the loyalty of all ranks and descriptions of the people. It must excite them to express, with united voice, their firm determination to defend that happy constitution, which, under the auspices of Divine Providence, is the distinguished source of all our blessings.

Meanwhile, the Executive Directory are entitled to the assurances of our high consideration, for their late fulminating proclamation, of the 1st Frimaire.

It is a Philippic which speaks to the feelings and patriotism of the British Nation, in language still more forcible than the manifesto from the Throne.

It is a warning voice, conveying to us this friendly counsel,

Go call thy sons, instruct them what a debt

They owe their ancestors, and make them swear

To pay it, by transmitting down, entire,

Those sacred rights to which themselves were born.

AKENSIDE.

Quadrupeds,

from the lieutenancy, at their general meeting in September last: "The
" meeting cannot omit this opportunity of expressing, in terms of the high-
" est approbation, the very high sense they entertain of the orderly, quiet,
" and respectful behaviour of all ranks of the inhabitants of this county,
" in regard to the militia business. This propriety of conduct has not been
" confined to one or two districts, but, from the reports of the different de-
" puty-lieutenants, has been universal throughout the county; nor has a
" single instance occurred, wherein the people have not resisted every in-
" sinuation to the prejudice of the act, and come forward with the most
" cheerful and implicit obedience to the law."

Quadrupeds, Birds, &c.—Of indigenous animals there are none peculiar to this place. In Lord Fife's park are several varieties of the deer; and the pheasant is found wild in many of the adjoining woods.

A maccaw, celebrated for its beautiful plumage, was brought from the West Indies in 1756, and lived 27 years at Duff House. His vigour was not impaired, when, in 1784, he was killed by some animal unknown.

In Mr Condiner's late publication of "Singular Subjects of Natural History," are engraved some beautiful specimens of coralline and polypus, found off the coast of Banff. He has annexed particular descriptions of each.

M. U. N.

NUMBER XVIII.

PARISH OF ABERCORN.

(COUNTY AND PRESBYTERY OF LINLITHGOW, SYNOD OF
LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.)

By the Rev. HUGH MEIKLEJOHN, Minister.

Name.

NOTHING more than probable conjecture can now be stated with respect to the etymology and signification of the name of this parish.—The church and village of Abercorn are situated upon an angular point, and from 60 to 80 feet above the level of the sea. At the point, about an hundred yards below the church, the Cornie and Midhope burns are united, and, after running nearly an hundred yards farther, between lands of equal elevation with that upon which the church and village are situated, and which approach towards each other so as to form a beautiful opening, they fall into the Forth. Aber, or Aeber, is said to signify, in the ancient language of the country, the influx of

of a stream or river, or the point where the influx takes place; and I have been informed that Cornie or Curnig, in the same language, signifies rotten trees. If this be the import of these words, Abercorn or Abercurnig, according to the ancient orthography, signifies the point at the influx of the rivulet or burn of the rotten trees.

Buchanan has offered a singular conjecture concerning the origin of this name. He supposes it may have been derived from the Cornavii, who were placed by Ptolemy in Caithness and Cornwall. “In hoc tractu, (Cathanesia),
“Ptolemæus collocat Cornavios, cujus nominis adhuc vesti-
“gia quædam restant.—Videntur et in media insula, ob-
“scura quidem illa, sed hujus tamen nominis vestigia re-
“mansisse. Valli enim Severi initium scribit Beda non
“procul abesse a cænobio Aebercurnig, et monasterii qui-
“dem illic nullum indicium in illis locis est relictum: ma-
“net autem non procul illinc semidiruta Duglassiorum arx,
“Abercornum nomine. Horum autem vocabulorum u-
“trumque an alterum sit a Kernico corruptum, lectori di-
“judicandam relinquo*.” It may be presumed, few readers will judge favourably of this fanciful etymology.

Situation and Extent.—The parish of Abercorn, situated on the south bank of the Forth, is of a rectangular form, being in length, from east to west, about four miles, and about three in breadth. It is bounded on the east, by Dalmeny; on the south, by Kirkliston; on the south-west, by a detached part of Dalmeny and Ecclesmachan; on the west, by Linlithgow and Carriden; and on the north, by the Frith of Forth. The centre of the parish is twelve miles from Edinburgh, and between five and six from Linlithgow, the county town.

Hills.

* Hist. Rer. Scot., lib. 1.

Hills.—This parish exhibits a greater variety of surface than is usually seen in the same extent, though the numerous swellings which produce it do not rise to any great height. Two of them only have obtained the appellation of *hill*. Binns Hill, the greater of the two, is situated towards the west end of the parish. It is arable to the summit, and cultivated with advantage for the various species of grain, the soil being richer and deeper than in the low lands adjacent to it. From its situation, on the banks of the Forth, though of no great altitude, it commands a most extensive view, along the river, from the Bass up to Ben Lomond, in the immediate vicinity of which it has its source. The other, Priestinch Hill, in the south part of the parish, stands on an inch or flat, which was probably valuable in former times as grass or meadow land. The height is inconsiderable, but as it rises with a steep ascent from a narrow base, it readily strikes the eye. The summit of it has been fortified with a circular wall, the remains of which are still visible; but by whom, or for what purpose, is altogether unknown.

Rivers.—There is nothing in the parish which deserves the name of river, though it is plentifully supplied with small streams. The Lynmill burn separates it from Dalmeny, on the east; and Blacknefs burn from Carriden, on the west. The Cornie and Midhope burns have their courses through the parish. It may be observed of all these, that they are small rivulets, compared with some of those streams called burns in Scotland, and that the course of none of them exceeds three or four miles.

Soil.—From the variety of surface which has been mentioned, a considerable variety of soil may be expected, and in reality obtains through the parish; but of which, from

this very circumstance, it is hardly possible to give any general character. The bottom, consisting of rotten whin, lime-stone, free-stone, till, gravel, and sometimes of sand, is as much diversified as the soil which covers it. Notwithstanding these circumstances, which wear an unfavourable aspect to the intelligent farmer, there is no reason to complain of want of fertility in those lands which have been properly cultivated.

Farming.—There is at present but a small proportion of the parish employed in raising grain. Exclusive of the proprietors, who have generally some fields in tillage for their convenience, there are only about a dozen of farmers, who may employ about 20 ploughs, each drawn by two horses. There must have been formerly about five times the number of farmers. The traces of many of the old farm-houses can still be discerned, and there were others of which no vestige remains. There is only one corn-mill at present; and one on a very small scale would be sufficient for the business which the parish affords. Formerly, however, there were four, the ruins of which are still visible. It is probable there was never employment for that number. When corn-mills were new, every body erected them; but the number gradually diminished to what experience shewed to be necessary. Farming appears to have met with considerable attention in this parish at an early period. It is not a great many years since wheat was cultivated even in the more fertile districts of Scotland. It must, however, have been a staple article with the farmers here nearly two hundred years ago; for a considerable part of the rents were paid in wheat in the beginning of the 17th century, as appears from decreets of valuation obtained by different heritors about the year 1630. It would be unnecessary to give any particular delineation of the system of farming which is pursued

pursued at present. The instruments of agriculture, the method of dressing the fields for different crops, and the rotation of cropping them, do not differ in any material respect from what obtains in the various districts of the Lothians. The drill-husbandry, and the advantage of green and white crops alternately, are fully understood, and practised as generally as circumstances will admit.

Draining.—From the variety of surface, and the great diversity of substances which form the bottom, draining has been experienced to be particularly necessary here, as indeed it has generally been in the arable districts of Scotland. The business is well understood, and though much has been done, chiefly by the proprietors, much still remains. The indispensable necessity of draining wet lands appears every season, when they are in tillage; but when they are in pasture, it does not appear in the same striking and forcible point of view. On the contrary, a certain proportion of wet land was formerly considered as advantageous in pasture fields. This idea is now justly exploded by intelligent farmers; for though cattle, in the drought of summer, sometimes do betake themselves to the coarse grass which grows on marshy and wet spots, it is only when the finer and more nutritive food on the dry land, which they always prefer, becomes scarce. Such corners, therefore, not only injure the beauty of pasture fields, but diminish their value. As the theory is improved in this particular, a corresponding change begins to obtain in practice; and it is probable, the conviction that wet is as injurious to the valuable grasses as to corn, will soon extend that care to pastures, which has hitherto, with few exceptions, been confined to lands in tillage.

Grass.

Grass.—Though the whole parish of Abercorn be arable, excepting what is rendered otherwise by planting, fully two-thirds of it are in grass. The richest crops of grain adorn the fields only for a few of the summer months, but when in grass, they are covered with verdure through the whole year. This seems to be the reason why noblemen and gentlemen do not choose to have the lands in the immediate vicinity of their places in tillage, and accounts for so great proportion of this parish being in grass. At the same time, it may be observed, that lands suitable for pasture, and within a convenient distance of Edinburgh, are nearly of the same value as when under the plough. Some of the fields are distinguished both by the quantity and richness of the grass which they produce, and have been said by intelligent graziers, though not so early, to be equal in value, in the course of the year, to any in North Britain. Those let are generally employed in feeding beef and mutton for the Edinburgh market. They are considered as too valuable for breeding by those to whom profit is the only object.

Wood.—The natural beauty of the parish is greatly heightened by the quantity of land which is planted, and the taste with which it has been done. There is at present a considerable proportion of the whole, perhaps about a sixth, covered with wood. From this circumstance, Abercorn naturally strikes the eye from the opposite coast of Fife. Continued plantations, from the vicinity of Queensferry to Blackness, mark the bounds of the parish, and exhibit a scene rich and beautiful to the eye of the observer. Most of the fields are surrounded with belts, and those which are extensive are ornamented with clumps of various dimensions. On the highest land in the parish, formerly the moor of Abercorn, the Earl of Hopetoun has a wood of
very

very considerable extent.—Near the centre of this wood, a coarse grey stone, apparently standing on end, is said to mark the place where meetings were held in ancient times, and has probably been the witness of many transactions of which there is now no memorial in the world.

The beauty of these plantations is generally rendered accessible and easily enjoyed, by lawns and alleys skirted with shrubbery, which have been left for the purpose. Some of them contain all the variety of trees, native and exotic, which were known in this country at the times they were planted, and consequently afford an opportunity to the intelligent observer, of appreciating their merits, and of marking the particular soils and exposures which are most favourable to their growth.

Inclosures.—From what has already been said, it may be presumed, that all the lands in this parish are inclosed. The fences, consisting of stone-walls, of hedges, and frequently of both these, thus uniting their advantages, are generally good. The hedges have, in some instances, suffered from those causes by which they are most commonly injured. These are, the planting trees, in thick hedge-rows, in the line with the thorns; and the allowing the thorns to grow up into trees, which, however beautiful they may be in this state, renders them open below, and insufficient as a fence. Both these having been experienced in some degree, are now correcting, and will be guarded against in time to come.

Minerals, &c. &c.—The information concerning the minerals, &c. in this parish, must be very limited, as they have hitherto been but very partially investigated. There is excellent free-stone in different parts of it, capable of being worked into the finest architecture, of which the columns

lums in the front of Hopetoun House exhibit the most satisfactory evidence. There are likewise very extensive beds of lime-stone, which is of a superior quality. These were wrought to a considerable extent in the beginning of the last century, and probably at an earlier period. There is reason to believe Abercorn was formerly the principal market for lime on the banks of the Forth, probably before those valuable works on the opposite coast of Fife commenced, which are now carried on with advantage to so great an extent. It is said the fortifications of Dunkirk were built with lime from Abercorn; and the old people speak of the French vessels employed in carrying it. Lime continues to be wrought on the estate of Duddingston, but only for a land sale. Ten men are usually employed in quarrying and burning it; and about 10,000 bolls are sold annually. It is sold by the Linlithgow pease measure, and at 1 s. *per* boll. The boll of shells produces two and a half, and sometimes very nearly three bolls of slacked lime.

Hitherto no coal has been wrought in the parish, this necessary article being generally brought from the vicinity of Borrowstounness, which is between five and six miles distant. It is, however, by no means improbable, that there is coal, particularly in the south-west part of the parish. There are certain indications of iron-stone in different places, and a small quantity has been gathered along the shore; but as it has never been wrought, it is impossible to say of what quality, and in what quantity, it might be found. There is something singular in the lie or bearing of the metals. The dip is frequently so great, that the strata appear almost perpendicular to the plane of the horizon. Such is the irregularity, that within the same field they are often found to bear to opposite points, and frequently contrary to what is their usual bearing along the banks of the Forth, and in-
deed

deed over the whole island. It should have been mentioned, that shell-marl has been found in different places, and was once wrought, though to no extent.

Horses, Cattle, &c.—Horses, black-cattle, sheep, with all the common domesticated animals, are kept in this parish. Beside these, the Earl of Hopetoun has an extensive park well stocked with fallow deer. From what has been already stated with respect to the manner in which the lands are occupied, it will readily occur, that no accurate information can be given with regard to the number of each kind. This can never be done when grazing obtains in any considerable degree, as the numbers will fluctuate not only every season, but frequently in the course of the same season.

Very laudable exertions have been made to promote the improvement of the different kinds of useful animals. Those in the more elevated stations have very properly thought it a duty incumbent upon them, to bring the most approved breeds within the reach of those who have not the same means of selection, wisely judging, that improvements of this kind must be gradually made, but that those will ultimately obtain, which are really advantageous to the country. With this view, different species of horses and cattle have been brought from England by the family of Hopetoun. The horses in the neighbourhood are said to have been much improved, by being crossed with a breed of Mr Bakewell's, introduced by Mr George Henderson in Craigton. The laudable exertions which began to be made some years ago, for improving the breed of sheep, have not been without effect. The value of the wool has been doubled, and even tripled, on some pastures in this parish. The advantage of the Edinburgh market, and the richness of the grass, might be supposed to make the breed of milch-

cows,

cows, and the management of the dairy, objects of great importance. Perhaps neither of these have met with that particular attention, in this neighbourhood, which they undoubtedly deserve. It might be supposed, that improvement in that which is more or less the business of so many, and which materially affects their gain, would not be left to accident; and yet, meliorations in things of this kind seem hitherto to have proceeded more from accident than any settled purpose. To improve the kinds of the useful animals, or the species of grain which are commonly cultivated, is a work of genuine patriotism and extensive beneficence. It is neither confined to place nor time, but spreads in proportion to its utility, and is handed down from generation to generation.

Manufactures.—There is no manufacture or great work carried on in the parish of Abercorn. There are, indeed, a few tradesmen, such as masons, wrights, smiths, shoemakers, weavers, tailors, &c.; but in some of these branches the number is not sufficient for the accommodation of the inhabitants. There is neither surgeon, writer, nor merchant. The houses in which spiritous liquors and ale are sold are few; and these, kept by sober and respectable people, do not seem to have the injurious effects which alehouses are generally said to produce.

Price of Labour and Provisions.—It is unnecessary to go into any detail with regard to the price of labour, as it is not materially different from what obtains through the Lothians. The principal proprietors, who employ most of the labourers, do not, perhaps, give the same high wages which are to be procured elsewhere, especially at public works; but the receivers are more than compensated, by the assistance

ance which they regularly receive in their old age, and which is generally extended to their widows. From the daily intercourse with Edinburgh, the prices of all kinds of provisions are regulated by those in the market of the metropolis, and are very nearly the same with them.

Population.—The return from Abercorn to Dr Webster, in the year 1755, was 1037 souls. In the year 1792, a list, completely accurate, was made up, in the course of parochial duty, by the writer of this account, and with a view to it, when the number was 870; and he has no reason to think there is any considerable alteration since that time. There has, therefore, been a decrease of 167 in the course of the last 40 years. The register of baptisms begins so far back as the 1st of November 1585, and, though not complete, has been kept with tolerable regularity since that time. From 1586 to 1592, both inclusive, the annual average is 25. The average of ten years has been taken at many different periods, and is found to have been highest towards the end of the last century, being then nearly 39. Since that time it has gradually decreased; so that the average of the last ten years wants a fraction of 20. Judging, therefore, from the evidence which the register of baptisms affords, the population of the parish gradually increased till towards the end of the last century, being then above 1600; since which it has decreased nearly one half. There is no register of deaths before the beginning of the present century. The following table exhibits several facts with respect to the sex, age, &c. of the inhabitants in the year 1792.

Year 1792.

Males,	-	-	451
Females,	-	-	419
Unmarried persons,	-	-	545
Married,	-	-	278
Vol. XX.	3 D		Widowers,

Widowers,	6
Widows,	41
Under 10 years old,	215
From 10 to 20,	192
From 20 to 40,	229
From 40 to 60,	142
From 60 to 80,	88
Above 80,	4

Property.—The whole parish is valued at L. 6945, 3 s. Scotch, and is divided among four heritors.

1. The Right Honourable James, third Earl of Hopetoun, &c. one of whose ancestors, John Hope of Hopetoun, purchased the barony of Abercorn from Sir Walter Seton in 1678; and the family, at subsequent periods, acquired Meidhope, formerly the property of the Earls of Linlithgow, one of whom lived in the house of Meidhope in the beginning of this century, Philpston, Stonehill, and Morton, formerly belonging to branches of the House of Dundas; Duntarvie, for near two centuries a seat of the Durhams; Craigton, and other lands in the parish; so that his Lordship's valued rent now is about two-thirds of the whole, being L. 4586, 6 s. Scots.

2. David Dundas of Duddingstone, descended from a younger son of the House of Dundas, who had originally the small farm of Priestinch, and acquired the lands of Duddingstone by marriage, about the year 1530. Mr Dundas's lands are valued at L. 1416 Scots.

3. Sir James Dalryell of Binns, descended from Thomas Dalryell, who acquired the lands of Binns towards the end of the 16th century; and whose estate in this parish is valued at L. 733, 7 s. Scots.

Thomas Dalryell of Binns, one of Sir James's ancestors, was born in the parish of Abercorn, his name occurring in the

the register of baptisms in the year 1615. He was commander in chief of the forces in Scotland, distinguished by great fidelity to his King, and is recorded to have had many peculiarities of character. He died on the 22d of August 1685. See Grainger's Biographical History.

4. James Dundas of Dundas, a minor, and chief of the ancient family of Dundas, has a small property in this parish, valued at L. 209, 10 s. Scots. His extensive estate of Dundas lies in the neighbouring parishes of Dalmeny and Kirklistoun.

Church, &c.—There is no place of worship within the parish but the parochial church, which is attended by the great body of the inhabitants. The only dissenters belong to the Burgher and Antiburgher societies. Though they continue a connection which was formed by their fathers, and in which they were educated, it is but justice to state, that they discover nothing of the narrow prejudice and animosity which were but too apparent in the earlier periods of the secession. The parish-church, remarkable for the beauty of its situation, is an irregular building, some part of which exhibits marks of considerable antiquity. The Earl of Hopetoun is patron. The minister's stipend, as recently augmented, consists of 64 bolls 2 pecks 2 lippies meal, 60 bolls 1 lippie barley, 4 bolls 2 pecks 2 lippies wheat, L. 49 : 16 : 5 Sterling of money stipend, L. 5, 17 s. 3½ d. Sterling for providing communion-elements, with the usual accommodations of manse, offices, garden and glebe. The present incumbent was ordained and admitted minister of the parish in the year 1791.

School.—The parochial school is the only place of education. From the ability and very uncommon assiduity which have long been exerted by Mr Robert Murray the schoolmaster, it has grown into high reputation, which is evident

evident from the numbers who resort to it from all parts of the country, many of them from a great distance. Nor is this preference ill founded; for there are undoubtedly few schools in which that education which prepares for business is better conducted, or with greater success. The whole of Mr Murray's emoluments, excepting the school-wages, amount to about L. 10 Sterling, which is made up of his salary, fees as session-clerk, and the interest of L. 52 Sterling mortified for behoof of the schoolmaster. Experience begins to shew very forcibly, though happily not yet in this parish, that the advantage which the youth of Scotland have long enjoyed, in point of education, will soon be lost, unless more adequate provision be made for one of the most useful classes of men in the community.

Poor.—The poor are chiefly supported by the contributions at the church-doors, which, with L. 9, 18 s. Sterling, the interest of money belonging to them, have annually averaged nearly L. 115 Sterling for these six years. Such liberal contributions can only be accounted for from the very regular and exemplary attendance upon public worship of those in the higher ranks, particularly of the Hopetoun family. An annual distribution of meal has been made by the same family, for a very long period, to the extent of several chalders. With such supplies, it may be concluded, that there are few, if any parishes, in which the hardships of poverty are so much alleviated,

Hopetoun House,—The principal seat of the noble family of Hopetoun, cannot be passed over in the account of a parish, of which it is the greatest ornament. It is said the fine situation occurred very accidentally to Charles, first Earl of Hopetoun, when he was going to build on another part of the estate. The building commenced in the year 1696, under

der the direction of Sir William Bruce of Kinross. Mr Adam afterwards took up the plan, and completed it in the time of the second Earl. Considering the wealth which has been employed, in the course of a century, and under the direction of excellent taste, in beautifying a place possessed of so many natural advantages, it is not wonderful the result should be general admiration. I forbear giving a detailed description of this princely seat, which is visited by all those who travel through Scotland, and fully celebrated by every itinerant bookmaker.

Abercorn Estate.—Abercorn appears to have been always a principal estate in Linlithgowshire. The sheriffship of the shire belonged to it previous to the passing of the jurisdiction act. In the 13th century it belonged to the Grahams. Sir John Graham of Abercorn, the friend of Wallace, fell in the vicinity of Falkirk, fighting for the liberties of his country against Edward I. of England, on the 22d of July 1298. Since that time it has belonged to several noble and distinguished families, the Douglasses, Mures, Lindsays, and Setons, from whom it came to one of the ancestors of the present proprietor, as formerly mentioned. Its extent was greatly diminished when sold by Sir Walter Seton; but it has regained its original importance in the possession of the family of Hopetoun. An authentic history of such an estate, for a long period, would be a curious and interesting work, exhibiting its transitions from family to family, and the additions and diminutions which it experienced, according to the rise and fall of the fortunes of its possessors.

Abercorn Wall.—The wall built by the Romans in the time of Antoninus, between the Friths of Forth and Clyde, has been called by some historians the Wall of Abercorn.
It

It is, however, more than probable this wall never extended to Abercorn. The authority of the venerable Bede, when we recollect the age in which he lived, and the opportunity of knowledge which, as a Northumbrian, he possessed, has not been sufficiently attended to upon this point, concerning which there has been considerable investigation. "Incipit autem duorum ferme millium spatio a Monasterio Aebercurnig ad occidentem, in loco qui sermone Pic-
torum Peanuahel, lingua autem Anglorum Penueltum appellatur, et tendens contra occidentem, terminatur juxta urbem Alcluith." Bed. Eccles. Hist. Gent. Angl. lib. i. cap. xii. The name given by both nations to the place where the wall began, implies a point, and the point of Blackness is precisely the distance mentioned from the church of Abercorn, where, it is understood, the monastery was situated.

Monastery, &c.—The monastery of Abercorn was one of the most ancient in Scotland. It is several times mentioned by Bede, though he gives no particular account of it. Towards the end of the seventh century, it was the residence of a bishop Triumvin. At this period the territory of the Northumbrians extended to the Frith of Forth; but in the year 684, Ægfrid their king was defeated and slain by the Picts, on which Triumvin left Abercorn*; and from that time it is uncertain whether the monastery continued, as there seems to be nothing recorded in history with respect to it. To this old religious establishment we must refer the names of many places in the parish, such as Priestinch, St Serf's Law, Priest's Folly, &c. &c.

About the year 1170, a dispute arose concerning the patronage of the church of Abercorn, between John Avenale,
or

* Bed. Hist. lib. 4. cap. xxvi.

or Avonale, Lord of Abercorn, and Richard, second Bishop of Dunkeld. The latter succeeded, as was to be expected in these times of increasing church power. In the year 1460, the whole lands belonging to the Bishop of Dunkeld on the south side of the Forth, consisting of Abercorn, Cramond, Preston, and Aberlady, were erected into one barony, to be called the barony of Aberlady.

Castle of Abercorn.—The Romans had stations or forts, at equal distances, between Antoninus's Wall and Cramond, the port which they frequented in the Forth, to preserve the communication, and to prevent the enemy from making inroads, by crossing from the opposite shore. One of these was probably the original of Abercorn Castle. There seems to have been another at Springfield, the remains of which were lately employed in building the present house and offices, and another on the point of Munch Hill. The castle was situated on a point north-east from the church of Abercorn, and must have been of difficult access, excepting on the east side. During the power of the House of Douglas it became a place of great strength, being one of the most tenable fortresses which belonged to the family. In the year 1454 it was besieged by King James II. the Earl of Douglas being then in rebellion. The King raised the siege, and went in pursuit of Douglas; but it was recommenced on the 8th of April 1455, and the walls of the castle being shattered by the repeated shocks of machines, it was taken by storm about the 8th of May following, and dismantled. It was never repaired afterwards. Buchanan speaks of it as half demolished (*semidiruta arx*) in his time.

Character of the People.—There is nothing particularly striking in the appearance or manners of the people of Abercorn. They are peaceable, sober, industrious, and regular,

gular, in an eminent degree. Less addicted to violent dispute concerning the doctrines of Christianity than the people in many parishes of Scotland, they have much more of the practice of it. A better testimony cannot be given to the regularity of their conduct, than by stating, that a considerable number of years sometimes elapses without any individual being subject to the censures of the church. Perhaps there is no parish, the inhabitants of which give less uneasiness and disquietude to their minister. Though by no means in a sequestered situation, they are removed from the immediate taint of that licentiousness which destroys the lower orders in cities and great towns. They have not suffered from the establishment of manufactories or great works, there being none either within the parish, or in the immediate neighbourhood of it. While these have enriched many districts of Scotland, they have had the most fatal influence upon the characters of the people. Those who have enlarged views of their country's good, will not rejoice in the acquisition of wealth, when it is accompanied with the sacrifice of the religious principles and moral conduct of the inhabitants. It is not easy to conceive how much the manners of the common people depend upon the higher orders who live among them. When the members of a great family are decent, regular, and uniform in their attendance upon the ordinances of religion, the benefit of the example is not confined to their domestics, but extends further than any other kind of influence which they possess. The parish of Abercorn enjoys the full advantage of such example, and it is obviously productive of the most salutary effects.

NUMBER XIX.

PARISH OF KILMORACK.

(COUNTY OF INVERNESS, SYNOD OF ROSS, PRESBYTERY
OF DINGWALL.)

By the Rev. JOHN FRASER.

Origin of the Name.

LIKE many other parishes in the Highlands of Scotland, this derives its name from having afforded burial ground, either to some reputed saint, or some person of distinction; *Cill Mborac* signifying the Cell or Chapel of Young Mary; but from what family this lady sprung, cannot with certainty be ascertained, though it seems most likely she was a descendant of one of the Lairds of Chisholm, who, long before the Reformation, was the principal residing heritor in the parish, and whose family still continue to bury in it.

Situation and Extent.—There is not probably in Scotland a parish of greater extent, stretching from Tarradale, (to

the eastward of the village of Beaully), in a direction pretty nearly from east to west, till within a short distance of the Cro of Kintail; a tract of ground upwards of 60 miles in length, by 10, 20, and even 30, in some places, in breadth. On the south, it is bounded by the Frith of Beaully, the parishes of Kirkhill and Kiltarlity; on the north and east, by the parishes of Urray and Contin; and on the west, by the parishes of Cro and Locharish.

General Appearance.—From the account given above of the extent of this parish, it will naturally be supposed that its appearance cannot be very regular; but though this must be allowed, the general face of the country it contains is very far from being unpleasant. At the eastern extremity we behold the Frith and the beautiful windings of the Beaully, extensive fertile corn-fields, and several gentlemens seats, many of them highly improved. Here most of the barren ground, and the hills almost to their summits, are covered with large plantations of Scotch fir, and a variety of natural wood. A few miles to the west of Beaully, the traveller sees, what has often been admired by the man of taste, the Falls of Kilmorack and Teanassie, the picturesque scenes in the Dreum, and the island of Aigash; at one end of which may be viewed, from the public road, three saw-mills, constantly at work, surrounded with as romantick and delightful a scenery as is to be met with in Scotland. Even in the remotest parts of the parish, hills and rocks of a very considerable height appear, clothed and adorned from top to bottom with a variety of trees, Scotch fir, birch, common and mountain ash, poplars, some oaks, hazel, &c. &c.

Rivers.—The principal river is the Beaully, composed of three lesser ones, the Farrur, Canich, and Glas, that give
names

names to as many glens ; these rivers intersect the parish in different directions, at their conflux below Erklefs Castle, the seat of Mr Chisholm of Chisholm ; they form the Beaully, which runs about eight miles before it discharges itself into the Frith of that name, at the most easterly point of the parish. This river, from the Frith to Beaufort Castle, abounds in salmon, and the harvest floods sometimes enable a few to get over the Falls of Kilmorack, and then they can with ease swim upwards more than 20 miles, even to the head of the Farrur, and a great way up the Glas ; but this seldom happens, and the number is commonly so trifling, that the proprietor very properly thinks, the value would not indemnify the expence and trouble that would attend the killing of them. A little below the Falls of Kilmorack is a stream reckoned among the best in Scotland for angling salmon ; from 20 to 30 have often been taken by one person in the course of a day.

The late Lord Lovat, who, with pleasure, often visited these Falls, once made a very uncommon and surprising experiment. Alongside one of them he ordered a kettle full of water to be placed over a fire, and a few minutes after, a large salmon leaped into it. Fabulous and incredible as this may seem to those who never were at Kilmorack, it is what would undoubtedly happen a hundred times every season, were the experiment tried. In the months of July and August, many fish lie at the foot of these Falls ; when a flood comes they all endeavour to get up the river, but as the water in which they swim is constantly agitated and frothy, on account of the height from which it falls, they cannot see before them, often mistake their direction, and leap on the dry rock. It is therefore a common practice with the people in the neighbourhood, to lay branches of trees along the side of the stream, to prevent the fish tumbling back into the river. Twenty salmon, by these means, have

have often in a morning been taken on the dry rock. Were a kettle therefore set a boiling where these branches are laid, a fish, by accident, might plunge into it, as soon as tumble on any part of the surrounding rock. The salmon fishing of the Beaully is the sole property of the Honourable Mr Fraser of Lovat. For years past it has been let in lease to John Richardson, Esq; of Pitfour, near Perth, at upwards of £. 600 Sterling *per annum*. This gentleman, when he first rented the fishing, was but little known, and almost an entire stranger in this country; but his obliging and engaging manners soon conciliated the good will and affection of all ranks of people in it. His laudable and amiable character, so generally known, and so well established, ought not to be mentioned but with approbation; and the present incumbent of this parish cannot forbear, in this public manner, giving his testimony to it. Mr Richardson has repeatedly laid the parishioners of Kilmorack, particularly the poor, under the greatest obligations. But his beneficence, liberal, and well-timed charity to them, in the years 1782 and 1783, will not be forgotten. They never fail, however, to make their kind benefactor the only return in their power, and what to him will be preferable to silver or gold, their sincerest wish that the blessing of the needy, and those who were then ready to perish, may come upon him.

Lakes.—In every district of this extensive parish, from the village of Beaully upwards, even in the highest hills, there are lakes, all plentifully stored with pike and trout. But there is one of them which deserves to be particularly remarked, on account of its being probably the only phænomenon of the kind in Great Britain. The name of this lake is Lochan Uain, or the Green Lake; it is on the Chisholm's property, about 40 miles to the west of Beaully, surrounded by mountains as high as any in Scotland: The most
southerly

southerly of these, and the highest, is called Maum Shou-dhil. This lake is constantly, both in summer and winter, covered with ice; but in the middle of June, when the sun is vertical, a very little of the ice in the centre of the lake is dissolved.

Climate.—In no respect has this country undergone a greater change than as to climate. About 20 years ago, the farmers, without a coat upon them, were obliged to yoke their labouring cattle, even in the month of March, about three or four o'clock in the morning, as neither the ploughman nor cattle could stand the heat of the day after six or seven. But how great the reverse; no sight more common now, in the latter end of April, and beginning of May, than a ploughman, with his body wrapt up in a great coat, and his hands muffled in worsted mitts, to preserve him from the frosty air. Showers of snow and hail are not unusual in June, not even in the dog-days; but though our seasons have thus varied, we have upon the whole less frost and snow throughout the year than formerly.

Crops.—Oats, barley, pease, rye, and some wheat, are the crops generally raised; but the parish, particularly the Highland part of it, reaps more benefit from the culture of potatoes than from all the other crops. The great advantage accruing to Highlanders from paying a proper attention to the cultivation of this useful root, does not appear, perhaps, in any other part of the country, in a more striking and convincing point of view than in the parish of Kilmorack. Within these 20 years, the Laird of Chisholm's tenants, in the height of Strathglass, were in the constant practice of purchasing yearly oat-meal to the amount of about L. 500; but during the 12 or 14 years last past, they have paid so much attention to their potatoe crop, that they
are

are not under the necessity of laying out L. 5 in the year for meal. New experiments are frequently made in the culture of potatoes, and many of them have succeeded beyond expectation. The present incumbent has had 11 successive crops from one field without a particle of manure, and all, except the last, equally good. He has now the satisfaction to see many of his parishioners following his example. The potatoes thus raised are, in number and size, at least equal, and in quality far superior, to those laid down with the richest manure. To the Honourable President of the Board of Agriculture, his country, and all Europe, are indebted for his disinterested and unwearied application, in endeavouring to promote whatever may tend to the good and prosperity of mankind. The Highlanders of Scotland, from the attention he has hitherto been pleased to pay them, have every reason to expect, that he, and the Honourable Board at which he presides, will continue to embrace every opportunity of pointing out to them the mode best calculated for improving the little field they have to go upon.

Prices of Provisions and Labour.—In this parish there is no public market for provisions, of course, their price, or that of grain, cannot with any degree of certainty be ascertained. Meal generally sells from 16 s. to 20 s. *per* boll; barley, from 20 s. to 25 s. *per* ditto; potatoes, from 6 d. to 8 d. *per* peck. Most of the farmers employ hired servants, to whom they pay from L. 3 to L. 5 Sterling of wages; day-labourers receive from 8 d. to 1 s. *per* day.

Black Cattle and Sheep.—In such an extent of country as this parish contains, it is impossible to ascertain the number of cattle. Though there are no sheep-farms, yet almost every person who possesses a house has a few; a great many
black

black-cattle are annually sold for the south of Scotland and English markets.

Population.—The inhabitants of this parish amount, at present, to 2318 souls.

Males,	-	-	-	1069
Females,	-	-	-	1249
Under 10 years of age,	-	-	-	728
From 10 to 20,	-	-	-	533
From 20 to 50,	-	-	-	814
From 50 to 70,	-	-	-	213
From 70 to 100,	-	-	-	29
From 100 to 105,	-	-	-	1

It is impossible with any degree of exactness to ascertain the deaths, marriages, or births, in so extensive a parish. Of the two former there are no registers kept; and there are so many Papists in the Highland part of it, that even the births cannot with any certainty be determined.

Hints.—The valued rent of this parish is L. 3810. Lovat's, 1830; Chisholm's, 1505; Struie's, 400; Aigash, 75. The real rent has considerably increased. By a proven rental taken in the year 1729, when the late incumbent applied for an augmentation of stipend, the victual rent was only 302 bolls 3 firlots; the money but L. 424 : 7 : 2⁸/₁₁. It is now 415 bolls victuals, and about L. 1397 Sterling money.

Ecclesiastical State of the Parish.—Mr Frazer of Lovat is patron of the parish. On the Chisholm's property, in the Highland part of it, there are from 600 to 700 Papists, all the rest of the inhabitants are of the Established Church. There are three places of worship, but the incumbent only preaches

preaches in the parish church. There is a missionary appointed, many years since, by the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty, for this and the neighbouring parish of Kiltarlity. He has four different preaching places, in each of which he officiates alternately.—The manse was built since the present incumbent was settled, and is still in pretty good repair.—The church is new.—In the parish there is both a parochial and Society's school.

Manufactures.—The only manufacture carried on in the parish is that of wood. Many thousand fir-trees are annually cut in Lovat's, the Chisholm's, and Struie's woods. These are sawn into square timber, planks, deals, &c. for the home and English markets. At the village of Beaully there was lately launched a vessel of upwards of 90 tons burden, built entirely of this wood; and there are at present two more on the stocks, of at least an equal size with the former. These vessels are bought by the mercantile people of Inverness, and employed by them in the trade from thence to London.

Post-Office.—Long after the present incumbent was settled, a runner was employed by a few gentlemen, to carry their newspapers and letters, three times a-week, from Inverness, being the nearest post town. Several years ago, Colonel Frazer of Belladrum, a gentleman ever attentive to what tends to the general good of the district in which he resides, after much solicitation, got a post-office established at Beaully, and became himself surety for the person appointed to the management of it. This he did from the most disinterested motive, receiving all his own post letters from Inverness. At the commencement of this establishment, it was generally thought that the office would not indemnify the public in the small salary of L. 5 allowed the post-master; but

but the circulation of correspondence has so surprisingly increased, that the post-office of Beaulieu returns annually to Government upwards of L. 90, clear of all expence.

Antiquities.—In different parts of the parish are to be seen many Druidical cairns or temples, and the ruins of small forts, built on the summits of hills; but what most attracts the attention of the traveller, is the ruins of the ancient Priory of Beaulieu. The greatest part of its walls are still standing. It was founded in the year 1230, by James Bisset of Lovat. The terms of its foundation were, “ut
“ pro ipso, dum viveret, Orarent Monachi; post mortem,
“ funus corpusque exciperent, atque animam de corpore
“ abeuntem, per continua sacrificia et opera pietatis prosequerentur.” His charter is confirmed by Pope Gregory III. Rom. Julii. Pontificatus sui, anno 4to.

NUMBER XX.

CITY OF DUNKELD, AND PARISH OF
DOWALLY*.(COUNTY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING,
AND PRESBYTERY OF DUNKELD.)

COMPILED FROM AUTHENTIC MATERIALS.

I. *Of Dunkeld.*

NAME.

THE name appears to have undergone, in the course of ages, a considerable change. In ancient records it is frequently written *Dunkelden*, and there are strong reasons for believing, that it was also written sometimes *Duneshald*, or *Duneshalden*†. Indeed, from consulting etymology,

* Though Dunkeld and Dowally are now commonly considered as forming one parish, yet the statistical circumstances of each are so completely different, that it has been thought proper to give an account of them in different papers

† Lord Hailes, in his *Annals of Scotland*, quotes the following passage from Simeon Dunelmensis: “*Ulfum Haroldi quondam regis filium, Duneshaldumque regis Malcomi filium, et custode laxatos et armis militaribus honoratos, abire permisit.*” Now Malcolm had no son of the name here mentioned; but his son Ethelred was abbot of *Dunkeld*, and hence, most probably, the appellation. *An. of Scot.* p. 22. Svo. Edin. 1797.

gy, we are led to consider the latter as bearing a closer resemblance, both in orthography and sound, to the words from which they are derived, than the former. This is equally true, whether, with one class of Gaelic etymologists, we consider the name as derived from *Dun-ghael-dhun*, "the Fortrefs of the Gaels of the Hills," or, with another class, from *Dun-chalden*, "the Hill of Hazels."

SITUATION.

Dunkeld is situated 54 miles north from Edinburgh, in the county of Perth, and on the north bank of the river Tay. The scenery which surrounds it has long been a subject of admiration, as romantic and delightful. It is one of those places which every foreign tourist hastens, on his arrival in Scotland, to see, nor does he return disappointed. Nature has been liberal in producing and combining fine objects in the landscape, and the improvements of the Duke of Atholl, conducted on an extensive scale, and with great taste, have given much additional ornament to the whole. It now presents a variety, and a degree of picturesque beauty, which is seldom equalled, and is, perhaps, (within the same compass of ground,) no where surpassed. So often, indeed, has that beauty been described and praised, that it is unnecessary to lengthen this account by descanting upon it. It is impossible, however, to resist the desire of inserting the description of one who was an exquisite judge, and who has selected, very happily, the objects which give its charms to the neighbourhood of Dunkeld. Mr Gray (the poet) paid a visit to the Earl of Strathmore at Glamis Castle, during the summer of the year 1766. At that time he made an excursion to the Highlands, and he thus expresses himself, in a letter addressed to Mr Walpole, afterwards Earl of Orford: "The road came to the brow of a steep descent, and, (the sun then setting), between two woods
" of

“ of oak, we saw, far below us, the river Tay come sweep-
 “ ing along, at the bottom of a precipice at least 150 feet
 “ deep, clear as glass, full to the brim, and very rapid in
 “ its course; it seem’d to issue out of woods thick and tall,
 “ that rose on either hand, and were overhung by broken
 “ rocky crags of vast height; above them, to the west,
 “ the tops of higher mountains appeared, on which the
 “ evening clouds reposed. Down by the side of the river,
 “ under the thickest shades, is seated the town of Dunkeld;
 “ in the midst of it stands a ruin’d cathedral, the towers and
 “ shell of the building still entire; a little beyond it a large
 “ house of the Duke of Atholl, with its offices and gar-
 “ dens, extends a mile beyond the town; and as his
 “ grounds are intersected by the streets and roads, he has
 “ flung arches of communication across them, that add to
 “ the scenery of the place *.”

BOUNDARIES.

The boundaries of Dunkeld, viewed as a parish, are not
 extensive, but they are not hitherto distinctly ascertained.
 As it was the seat of the bishop, and the service of the ca-
 thedral was performed either by his chaplain, or by some
 of the clergy who had fixed benefices in other quarters of
 the diocese, it was not necessary at that time to constitute it
 formally a parish, and to mark its limits. In fact, it does
 not appear that this was ever done. It is not entered as a
 parish in the cess-books of the county, and none of the old
 title-deeds of the proprietors describe the property as lying
 within the *parish*, but within the *city*, of Dunkeld. What
 is now therefore the parish, includes only what was former-
 ly within the boundaries of the city. These, in the course
 of

* Gray's Poems and Memoirs, p. 3. vol. iv. Mason's edition.

of the present century, have been considerably altered; for during the commotions of 1689, the greatest part of the houses were burnt by an irritated and licentious soldiery, and such of them as had stood to the west and north-west of the cathedral were not rebuilt. The ground which they, and the gardens which had lain intermixed with them, occupied, is supposed to have extended to about five acres, and this space now forms a part of the Duke of Atholl's lawn and policy. But as the boundaries of the town receded on one quarter, they stretched out on another. Several new houses were built on the slope of the eminence which rises to the eastward of the town. These are uniformly described in the title-deeds as lying in the parish of Caputh. That parish indeed completely surrounds Dunkeld, (except where it is skirted on the south by the Tay), and in former times had reached, it thus appears, close to the site of the buildings. Stipend is paid to the minister of Caputh from a piece of ground lying but a few yards from the cathedral.

POPULATION.

The numbers returned to Dr Webster, in 1755, were 1298. By an accurate list taken in 1789, (and there is no reason to believe that they have either increased or diminished materially since that time), they amounted to 1086 souls. Of these 589 were males, and 497 were females. Though no regular and authentic list of the births and burials has been kept, yet by evidence on which great reliance may be placed, the number of the former is calculated to be, on an average, 36 annually, and of the latter, 27. Of marriages, the average annual number is 9. The proportion of births thus annually, to the total number of inhabitants, is as 1 to 30; of deaths, as 1 to 40; and of marriages, as 1 to 120. The proportion of births to marriages is

was not till the beginning of this century that a regular minister was settled, and an official stipend fixed. In 1704 the Duke made an application to Queen Anne on the subject; in consequence of which, a grant was issued of the following tenor: "Considering, that now the cathedral-church
 " of Dunkeld, wherein was the bishop's seat, by removing
 " the bishops from their benefices, is destitute of a competent stipend; whereby the people of that town, and other
 " adjacent inhabitants, are deprived of the Word and Sacraments: Therefore, as coming in place of the bishops,
 " and having right to the tithes and emoluments of the
 " church and parish of Meigle *, do, in our pious and motherly care, grant and allocate, as much of the parsonage
 " and vicarage, teinds and feu-duties, as make up a stipend
 " of 9 chalders of victual, or 100 merks for each chalder,
 " if the parsonage teinds do not extend to the said quota in
 " victual, over and above the quota fixed for the minister
 " of Meigle." In consequence of the alternative left in the grant, 100 merks for each chalder, was paid to the minister for a considerable time †. In 1740, the incumbent claimed

* Meigle was a menial kirk of the bishop of Dunkeld, who had a right to the whole teinds of the parish.

† It appears, that in 1709, Mr William Chalmers, then minister of Dunkeld, presented a petition to the General Assembly, stating the hardship of his situation, in having neither manse nor glebe, and being unable to recover the full quota of victual-stipend allocated on the parish of Meigle. And the Assembly having inquired into the statements of the petition, "did humbly
 " and earnestly beg of his Grace, her Majesty's Commissioner, that he
 " would interpose with her Majesty," that the minister of Dunkeld might receive relief. And "his Grace was pleased kindly to undertake to lay this
 " matter before her Majesty." In 1715, however, we find a second petition from Mr Chalmers. "Notwithstanding (he says) the recommendation of the Assembly, 1709, for an augmentation of stipend to him, yet
 " the same had hitherto had no effect;" he therefore anew craves the protection

ed the victual, refusing to accede longer to the conversion into money. A long litigation ensued betwixt him and the heritors of Meigle; and the Court of Session decreed that they should pay as follows, L. 26 : 6 : 8 in money, and 45 bolls 3 firlots and 2 pecks of oat-meal, and 22 bolls 1 firlot and $3\frac{2}{5}$ pecks of barley. Besides what was thus payable from Meigle, the minister is entitled to L. 13 Sterling yearly, as one-third of the deanery duties of the cathedral of Dunkeld, granted, in 1744, to the ministers of Abernyte, Dunkeld, and Liff; but of this sum he receives no more than L. 8, 14 s. as some of the lands from which the duties should be drawn cannot be traced. Of feu-duties in Dunkeld he receives 3 s. 4 d. and of use and wont contribution from Dowally, L. 8 : 6 : 8. The average amount of the stipend, as made up of these particulars, does not exceed L. 95 Sterling *per annum*; a sum surely, in a place from local circumstances uncommonly expensive, and when there is neither manse, glebe, nor allowance for communion-elements, forming but a scanty provision. Did the state of the teinds of Dowally admit of an ample augmentation, the minister would not have long to complain; he would have no fear of relief, from those liberal ideas which his patron is known to entertain as to the endowments proper for the

VOL. XX. 3 G clergy,

tection and aid of the Court. The petition was granted, and the Commission enjoined to give him their assistance in the matter *. Though some additional grants by the Crown have been given since that time, there is still room for a third petition to the General Assembly, were this the competent channel for obtaining relief.

Mr Chalmers, with his last petition, gave in a memorial, containing an account of the state of his parish. The compiler of this article regretted to learn, on inquiry, that it has not been preserved *in retentis* among the papers of the Church. It would have afforded him, probably, favourable materials for a statistical comparison of the circumstances of Dunkeld, at two very distant periods.

* Unprinted Acts of Assembly, 1709 & 1715.

clergy, and that progressive increase of allowance to which they are entitled amid the progressive improvement of the country. It is hoped, however, that the Crown, who by a former grant have acknowledged the fact of its being necessary to provide for the minister of Dunkeld out of the bishop's rents, will, by an additional grant, do that for him, which the equity of heritors, and the justice of the Court of Session, are doing for so many of his brethren.

2. *Cathedral*.—The quire of the cathedral is now converted into the parish-church, and forms a decent, and not incommodious place of worship; though, from the height of the walls, and the want of ceiling, it is not only bare and meagre to the eye, but is liable to be uncomfortably cold to the congregation during winter.

In 1762, James, Duke of Atholl, finding the roof had gone to decay, obtained from Government L. 300 Sterling for renewing it, and accomplishing such other repairs as were necessary. This sum, together with the price of the old materials, and about L. 80 paid by different persons for purchasing space on the ground of the area for seats, was employed in putting on the present roof, and in completely new seating the body of the church. Two galleries have since been erected, at the expence of two lodges of Free Masons belonging to the town, who draw the rents paid for them. In front of the pulpit, there is a spacious and handsome seat fitted up for the family of Atholl; and it should be known to their honour, that while they are at Dunkeld-House, the seat is seldom empty during Divine service.

The quire was founded by Bishop Sinclair, and finished by him in 1350. As a memorial of his having done so, he placed a cross *ingraillé*, (part of the arms of his family), on the top of the eastern gable, where it still remains. In the middle of that gable there is to be seen a part of the old

old wall of the Abbey of Culdees, which had stood there. The windows, which were originally built in the Gothic form*, were modernised in 1762, when the church was repaired. Several monuments were erected to bishops who had been buried in the quire. But these were either defaced at the Reformation, or were removed, or are covered from view by the present seats. A square slab of blue marble, which lay on the grave of Bishop Sinclair, is still to be seen in front of the Duke of Atholl's seat, upon the floor. In the south wall, on the west side of the pulpit, there are the arms of bishop Alexander Lindsay, and on a stone below them an inscription, bearing, that the roof had been put on the quire by Stewart of Ladywell. This must have been about 1600, for he died in 1636, in the 66th year of his age.

A monument which is now placed at the north side of the door which leads from the quire into the nave, requires more minute mention. It stood originally in the middle of the quire, and was erected to the memory of Alexander, Earl of Buchan and Badenoch. He was third son of King Robert II. and from his ferocious and sanguinary disposition, was called the "Wolf of Badenoch." The bishop of Moray excommunicated him on account of some predatory outrage against his ecclesiastical possessions. In revenge, the Earl, with a band of his retainers, ravaged the diocese, and burnt the town of Elgin, with its hospital
of

* They are so represented in Slezer's *Theatrum Scotiae*, which was published in 1693. In one of his views of Dunkeld, a part of the bishop's palace appears; and in another, the south porch of the west gate of the cathedral seems more perfect than it is at present. With a strange inattention to the nature and history of a Highland scene, this artist (a foreigner indeed) places a windmill on the fore-ground!

of Maison Dieu, and its magnificent cathedral *. For this sacrilegious misdemeanour, he was compelled by his father to appear, barefoot and in sackcloth, at the door of the Black Friars church in Perth, and afterwards to promise, at the high altar, where the King and Nobles were assembled, indemnification to the bishop of Moray. He died in 1394. His monument consists of his effigies recumbent, in armour, and large as life; and is supported by a row of ornamented pillars, intermixed with figures. The following inscription is upon it: "Hic jacet Dominus Alexander Senescallus Comes de Buchan, et Dominus de Badenach, *bene memorie*, qui obiit 20 die mensis Februarii, anno Dom. 1394." This monument remained entire till the Revolution. A party of Angus' Cameronians, stationed at that time in Dunkeld, mutilated and defaced it. Still, however, it is in tolerably complete preservation.

Near it, a plain stone, fixed in the north wall, bears an inscription sacred to the memory of the late commissary Thomas Bisset. It contains a well expressed eulogy on the strict integrity and blameless manners of the man, and is one of the few instances where a tombstone speaks nothing but the truth.

On the north side of the quire is the chapter-house. It was built by Bishop Lauder in 1469, and is still, as described by Abbot Mill, "a fine firm fabric." In a vault below it is the burying-place of the family of Atholl. The upper room, to which one ascends by a narrow stair, is occupied by the Duke as a charter-room.

Passing from the quire into the body of the cathedral, the spectator is struck by the union of simplicity and elegance in

* Fordun says, "combussit ecclesiam cathedralem Moraviæ de Elgyn de-
cus tunc totius patriæ—vulgariter dicebatur Lupus de Badenach."
SCOTICHRONICON, p. 416.

in the style of the architecture. The pillars are round; two range of arches, (seven in the length of the range), and above them a range of windows, (equal in number), rise on each another in the walls of the nave. At the west end of it, the remains of a magnificent window meet the eye. In the wall of the south aisle, there is a monument which has been erected over the grave of one of the bishops. A figure of a bishop, with his Episcopal staff and dress, still lies in the niche which had been cut out for it.

The area of this part of the building is employed as burying-ground by the inhabitants. On the day on which the Sacrament is dispensed in the church, a tent is erected in it, and sermon delivered;—a striking picture of the mutability of human opinions, and human things!

The porch of the south gate of the cathedral, built by Bishop Lauder, is mentioned by Abbot Mill * to have been a handsome piece of architecture, and “ beautified with several fine images.” The images have been long since destroyed, and the whole wears the appearance of decay.

One cannot cease looking at the nave and aisles of the cathedral, without lamenting as he sees them stand roofless and in desolation. While he muses, he mourns with regret over the blind and hasty zeal, which, in the ardour of changing a creed, demolished a building, nor spared, in its hatred

* *Manuscript History of the Lives of the Bishops of Dunkeld.* Mill was one of the Canons of the cathedral in the time of Bishop Brown and Bishop Gavin Douglas; and is remarkable from being made in 1532, (see Lord Hailes' Catalogue of the Lords of Session), the first President of the Court of Session. A copy of the work quoted above (which there is reason to believe belonged to Bishop Sinclair) is in the Advocates Library in Edinburgh; and there is a copy transcribed from that one in the library of the Duke of Atholl. His Grace has a translation of it also, made at the request of the late Duke, by the Reverend Dr Bisset of Logierait.

tred at the rites of the worshipper, the temple where he worshipped. Alas! in the defacement of those works of ancient piety and art, is there not left us a memorial, that the wisest and the best have cause to guard, in the collision of opposing opinions, against an uncharitable and persecuting spirit? We revere and bless the leaders of the Reformation, for the religious light which they shed on our land; but, surveying the ruins before us, this lesson is impressed on the heart, "Let him that thinketh he standeth," in charity and love, "take heed lest he fall*."

The steeple, (which was new roofed in 1762), stands at the west end of the north aisle. It was begun by Bishop Lauder in 1469, and was finished by Bishop Brown in 1501. There are four bells in it, one of which is rung every morning at six, and every evening at eight and at ten o'clock.

There

* The original letter, containing the order issued at the Reformation respecting this cathedral, is at present in the hands of the compiler. From the colour of the ink, and the shape of the letters, he believes the body of the order, (on comparing it with the signature), to be the writing of James Stewart. He subjoins a copy of it, preserving the spelling and the place of the postscript as they appear in the original. It is addressed,

"To our Traist friendis, the Lairds of Arntilly and Kinvaid.
 "Traist friendis, after maist harty commendacion, we pray yow faill not
 "to pass incontinent to the kyrk of Dunkeld, and tak down the haill images
 "thereof, and bring furth to the kyrk-zayrd, and burn thaym oppinly.
 "And siclyk cast down the altaris, and purge the kyrk of all kynd of mo-
 "numents of idolatrye. And this ze faill not to do, as ze will do us singu-
 "lar empleseur; and so committis you to the protection of God. From
 "Edinburgh, the xii. of August, 1560.
 "Faill not, bot ze tak guid heyd (Signed)
 "that neither the dasks, windocks, "AR. ERGYLL.
 "nor durris, be ony ways hurt
 "or broken ————— cyther "JAMES STEWART.
 "glassin wark or iron wark.

"RUTHVEN."

There is also in it a public clock, which is kept in order and regulated at the expence of the Duke of Atholl. A singular rent appears on the west side of the steeple. It begins at the bottom of the uppermost window, and runs down the middle of the wall. No account can be obtained of the time at which it happened, nor of the cause of it. Most probably it was occasioned by a partial sinking of the foundation. It is from one inch to an inch and a half in width *.

Betwixt the south wall of the cathedral and the street there is a narrow piece of inclosed ground, which is occupied as a church-yard. Formerly there was a row of trees in it. It contains no remarkable epitaph. One, however, should be mentioned, which has been frequently repeated as copied from a tomb-stone there. But, though it was composed on the person to whom it relates, and who was an inhabitant of Dunkeld, it was never actually inscribed. Her name was Marjory Scot. One of her descendants is still alive, who recollects to have seen her, and reports that it was composed by Mr Pennycook. She died in 1728. It is

* Bishop Brown placed five bells in the steeple. On one of them there was this inscription :

“ Dulce melos tango
 “ Sanctorum gaudia pango
 “ Vox mea, vox grata,
 “ Quia tempora signo grata.”

In consequence of this bell having been broken, and cast anew, the above inscription is replaced by the following : “ Me, cura et impensis Reverendi
 “ in Christo Patris Georgii Broun Dunkeldensis Episcopi, primo fusam,
 “ nunc, suis sumptibus reficere et augeri curavit Joannis Atholiæ Marchio
 “ Tullibardini Comes, Sigilli Privati, S. N. D. R. custos. anno Dom.
 “ 1688.” On another of the bells are the words, “ Joannis Meikle, nos
 “ fecit Edinburgi, anno 1688.”

is as follows, more remarkable for whimsical statement of chronological facts, than elegance of poetry :

Stop, passenger, until my life you read,
 The living may get knowledge from the dead.
 Five times five years unwedded was my life;
 Five times five years I was a virtuous wife;
 Ten times five years I wept a widow's woes;
 Now tir'd of human scenes, I here repose.
 Betwixt my cradle and my grave were seen
 Seven mighty Kings of Scotland, and a Queen;
 Full twice five years the Commonwealth I saw:
 Ten times the subjects rise against the law;
 And which is worse than any civil war,
 A King arraign'd before the subjects bar.
 Swarms of sectarians, hot with hellish rage,
 Cut off his royal head upon the stage.
 Twice did I see old Prelacy pull'd down,
 And twice the cloak did sink beneath the gown.
 I saw the Stewart race thrust out; nay, more,
 I saw our country fold for English ore:
 Our numerous Nobles, who have famous been,
 Sunk to the lowly number of fifteen.

Such desolations in my days have been,
 I have an end of all perfection seen.

At the gate of the church-yard there are two large stones, with the traces of some rude sculpture upon them, though much effaced. One of them bears the form of a cross, and the other of 12 persons, probably intended to represent the Apostles.

2. *Episcopal Chapel*.—There is a small chapel of this description in Dunkeld, where the clergyman performs service

vice every second Sabbath. He is attended by the families of some gentlemen in the neighbourhood, and by a few of the inhabitants of the town. On the Sabbath when he is absent from Dunkeld, he preaches at Lethendy (eight miles to the eastward) where he has also a chapel.

3. *Congregation of Independents.*—This congregation is composed of such as follow the opinions of the late Reverend Mr Glas, who separated himself some years ago from the Church of Scotland.

Numbers of the different Religious Denominations.

Of the Established Church,	-	1020
Independents,	-	60
Of the Church of England,	-	5
Roman Catholic,	-	1

SCHOOLS.

1. *The Grammar-School.*—The salary of schoolmaster in Dunkeld amounts to about L. 34 Sterling *per annum*, including the dues payable to the chaplain of St Ninian, of which he obtained a grant. These consist of 20 merks Scots, 2 bolls of coals, and 2 dozen of poultry; and part of them ought to be paid by lands at Aberlady, and what was formerly the bishop's lodging in Perth; but the present incumbent has never been able to trace the property, in these cases, to the proprietors who now hold it. He has also a dwelling-house officially, and has in general acted as session-clerk. His emoluments, as such, may amount to from L. 3 to L. 4 *per annum*. The number of scholars is 80 in winter, and 60 in summer; all of them, whatever branch of education they are taught, pay 2 s. 6 d. *per quarter*. There is an annual examination of the scholars in the church, when the inhabitants of the town attend, and a pe-

cuniary donation is given by the scholars to the teacher, as a token of the approbation of the parents.

2. *Sunday School*.—It was instituted in July 1789, under the patronage of the late Jane, Duchess of Atholl. The *Regulations*, approved of by her Grace, for conducting it, are subjoined *. The fees of the master she determined as follows: L. 1, 1 s. to be paid yearly by herself, as patroness, and 6 d. *per* quarter besides for 30 scholars. The same rate of payment was to be made by the session for 10; and by the parents of each for the rest. The Duke of Atholl's family

* I. That the school meet every Sunday during the year.

II. That every meeting of the school begin and close with a prayer, by the master.

III. That before the last prayer, some verses be sung from the Psalms, or from the Paraphrases and Translations of Sacred Scripture.

IV. That the scholars be catechised on the first principles of religion.

V. That a portion of the Bible, or a printed sermon, be read at every meeting, and that the master, in the course of proceeding, make such remarks as may explain and enforce what is read.

VI. That on Sunday the scholars walk in regular order, with the master, to hear sermon, and take their seat in that part of the church which is allotted to them.

VII. That once, at least, every year, a public examination of the school be held, on a week day; and that some books be then distributed to such of the scholars as have been most remarkable for improvement or good behaviour.

VIII. That a journal of the proceedings of the school be kept by the master, in which he is to mention the sermon or the portion of the Bible which is read at the meeting; and in order that justice may be done to every scholar, in the distribution of the rewards, he is to mention the names of those who are absent on any occasion, with the excuses for their absence which they afterwards bring; and the names of those who particularly excel, whether in answering questions, in reading, or in repeating what they have been desired to commit to memory.

IX. That a sermon be preached by the minister of Dunkeld at the said public examination, and the money collected be applied for the purposes of the school.

family have always, when in the country, honoured the public examination with their presence; and so liberal has the collection proved, that it has been abundantly adequate to the object in view. At the first of these examinations, which took place about three months after the commencement of the school, there were almost incredible proofs given of application and memory. Several of the scholars could repeat the *whole* book of Psalms, and the *whole* Paraphrases and Translations, besides many chapters from the Old and New Testament. Hitherto, indeed, it has continued to flourish, with a success which has never been exceeded by any similar establishment, and which reflects credit on the teacher, the scholars, the parents, and the memory of Her whose benevolence and piety gave rise to it. The benefit of such institutions is incalculable.

3. *Female School* *.—This school, also, was instituted by the late Jane, Duchess of Atholl. Her Grace gave an annual salary to a person properly qualified, to teach the different branches of female education, such as sewing, tambouring, &c. and paid the usual rates for a certain number of scholars, whom she nominated. The mistress, at the same time, was allowed to receive and teach other scholars, additional to these. All of them continue the practice of reading a lesson in English daily.

POOR.

1. *Number*.—There are no begging poor belonging to the parish; 17 receive a supply in their own houses, at the rate of 6 d. or 1 s. weekly, in proportion to their necessities; and occasionally not less than 50 partake of the benefit of the funds.

2. *Funds*.

* The present Duchess of Atholl patronises this and the Sunday school.

2. *Funds*.—These amount to not less than L. 80 Sterling *per annum*. They consist of the collection at the church-doors, which are equal yearly to L. 26; of fees for proclamations, use of the mort-cloth, &c. L. 3; of the interest of stock in the hands of the session, nearly L. 4; of L. 28 Scots paid in consequence of a mortification by one of the Dukes of Atholl*; and of the funds of the hospital of St George, which are, at an average, L. 45 Sterling†.

Besides these permanent funds, great exertions never fail to be made for the relief of the poor, when any extraordinary emergency calls for them. In 1782, the Duke of Atholl bought 500 bolls of meal, drove it at his own expence to Dunkeld, and sold it at a reduced price to the poor of the town and its neighbourhood. And his Grace, in 1796, subscribed L. 50, which, with the same sum subscribed by the inhabitants, was employed in purchasing meal.

* The Duke of Atholl, with consent of the minister, names the objects of this charity. It is paid, “in full contentation and satisfaction of all that the poor of the city of Dunkeld can ask furth of the Croft called the Chancellor’s Croft, by Andrew Burt his deed of mortification.” Burt’s deed of mortification is given in Dallas’ Styles, p. 840. “as a good stile, that may be a rule to the like.” He gives the subjects mentioned “in puram eleemosynam et in manum mortuam pro precibus et suffragiis of the poor, in the most serious, pious, and devout manner, for his MAJESTY’s sacred person, and his lineal and lawful successors well-being, health, wealth, prosperity, and happy peaceable reign, over this his Majesty’s ancient kingdom, and all other his Majesty’s kingdoms, dominions, and territories, (whiles sun and moon endureth in the firmament), and for crowning them with an everlasting crown of glory hereafter.”

† This hospital, according to Abbot Mill, was founded by Bishop Brown. It was destined for the support of seven old men, who were each to have a free house, and to receive five bolls of meal, and five merks Scots yearly. Prior to 1750, the hospital houses were low ruinous cottages; at that time they were pulled down, and substantial buildings raised on their site. The Commissary has the sole administration of the hospital and its funds.

meal. This the poor received at 1 s. 2 d. for oat-meal, and 8 d. for barley-meal, *per* peck ; which was at least 7 d. below the current market price at the time *.

In 1755, the number of poor supplied weekly was 14 ; and of those supplied occasionally, 5. The collection amounted to only L. 6, 10 s. *per annum*, and the stock in the hands of the session was L. 43.

There are some *Societies* which have been established for the benefit of the poor, and of which the good effects are extensively felt.

1. *The Cordiners Society*.—This society originated many years ago, but was new-modelled in 1774. It consists of 50 members. Each pays 10 s. 6 d. of entry-money, and 6 d. quarterly. From this fund 3 s. weekly is allowed to members that are sick or superannuated, and L. 1, 1 s. for the burial of each member, in whatever circumstances he may be.

2. *Weavers' Society*.—Was instituted in 1785, by the journeymen weavers. The number of members is already 160. Several gentlemen, friendly to such institutions, have enrolled their names, and pay the usual contribution, which is the same with that fixed by the Cordiners. The same allowance is also made by them to the sick and superannuated ;

* One laudable instance of a benevolent and charitable spirit should be specified : *Janet Macgregor* was maid-servant to a respectable family. The parents died, and the children, then in infancy, were very destitute. The poor woman clung to them with a parent's affection, and in supporting and rearing the orphans, spent the hard-won earnings of a length of years. —Pity on that cold heart which reckons this fact frivolous ! To the eye of that Being, who, in estimating charity, looks not to the rank of the giver, or the splendor of the gift, but to the principle of the deed, it will appear as of uncommon virtue.

ed; and they, further, give occasional relief to the widows and children of members.

3. *Mason Lodges*.—Of these there are two in Dunkeld. One is No XVI. in the roll of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and the other No CCII. Though these were not instituted for the immediate purposes of charity, yet a great portion of their funds are applied to them. Indeed, the latter have ingrafted a *box* on their Masonic funds, from which they allow 3 s. weekly to a member in distress, L. 2 for his burial, and L. 1 for the burial of his wife.

TRADE AND MANUFACTURES.

1. *Yarn*.—This is the staple commodity of the country above Dunkeld, and the merchants here deal in it extensively. Not less than 200,000 spindles are bought annually. The price varies greatly in different seasons, according to the state of the flax crop, and of the linen market. Of late, however, it has been progressively rising. In 1776, it was from 1 s. 8 d. to 1 s. 10 d. *per* spindle. In 1796, it was from 3 s. to 3 s. 3 d. The yarn which is bought in Dunkeld, but not manufactured there, is sold to Perth, Dunfermline, or Glasgow*.

2. *Linen*.—This manufacture is carried on, by some spirited individuals, to a very considerable extent. They employ not only such weavers as they can find accommodation for in

* Some improvements on the construction of the spinning-wheel, have been lately invented by a wheelwright in Dunkeld. At the desire of the late Dukes of Atholl, (who was disposed to patronise the inventor), a comparative trial was made betwixt the quantity and quality of the yarn which could be spun on this improved wheel, and one of the old form. The result was, that with greater ease to the spinner, nearly one-third more, and of better quality, was spun on the former. The Trustees for Manufactures would find here a proper object for their encouragement.

in the town, but many also in the country. They purchase, too, a great proportion of the linen which is brought from the neighbourhood to the Stamp-Office here. The report of the stamp-master to the Board of Trustees, for a course of years preceding the last, will shew the progress and present state of the manufacture in that quarter.

	No of yards.	Value.
1789	34,441	L. 1,533 13 10
1790	63,244	3,100 4 6
1791	89,605	4,480 5 0
1792	no report.	— — —
1793	115,215	4,800 12 11
1794	117,752	5,396 19 4
1795	130,684	6,534 4 6
1796	149,554	7,477 14 0

3. *Tanning*.—There are tanned here annually, at an average, of horse skins, 220; and of sheeps, 2100. The situation is favourable for the manufacture. Oak-bark is near, and, comparatively with its price in places more distant, cheap. Some years ago it was bought at 8 d. *per* stone; it costs now 1 s. 3 d. Birch-bark has been sometimes employed as a substitute, but is found to be much weaker in its effects. It sells at half the price of the oak-bark.

4. There are two distillers, who enter each two stills of 40 gallons.—Several hundred dozens of shoes are annually made, and sold to Edinburgh and London*.

FAIRS

* The increase of trade in Dunkeld, for the last 12 years, may be inferred from the increase of the Post-Office revenue. For the year 1786, it was L. 138: 16: 4; and for the year ending 5th January 1798, it was L. 279, 11 s. 1 d.; an increase (allowing for the additional rate of postage lately imposed) of L. 50 at least *per annum*.

FAIRS AND MARKETS.

There are six yearly fairs in Dunkeld. They are held on the 1st of January, and Candlemas day, chiefly for the sale of yarn; on 25th of March, for yarn and horses; on 9th June, (St Columba's day), for coarse cloths and other goods; Hallow-Day, for black-cattle, sheep and goats; and on the 8th December, for yarn. At these fairs a *guard*, paid by the Duke of Atholl, and provided with arms, is always in readiness to preserve the peace, and apprehend any offenders who may be detected.

There is a weekly market every Saturday. On these, and the intervening days of the week, there are sold annually 130 carcases of beef; 144 of veal; 800 of mutton; and 20 of pork. Calculating from the average weight of each of these respectively, and the price at which it is sold *per lb.* the total amount of the butcher-meat sold will be above L. 2000. There are two butchers who reside in the town, and two who attend the weekly market of Saturday.

The Duke of Atholl has a right to draw custom for the various articles brought to these fairs and markets for sale. The rate charged is small. The rent paid by the tacksmen is L. 12 *per annum*.

CHAPMEN SOCIETY.

This is a very ancient institution. The original charter was from James V. of Scotland, and it was renewed by James, Duke of Atholl, as High Sheriff of Perthshire, about 1730. There is one general meeting of the Society yearly, which, till 1776, was held always at Dunkeld, but now alternately at Dunkeld and Cupar of Angus. At this meeting the office-bearers for the ensuing year are chosen; the laws are enacted or repealed; complaints of members heard, and offenders fined; and assistance given from
their

their funds to indigent members. The meeting is styled a *Court* *. All members coming to the market are obliged to attend it. They are summoned by one of the office-bearers, who, to enforce their attendance, goes round to the different booths, in open market, and takes from each a piece of goods, or 2 s. 6 d. as a pledge for his appearance. Each must produce his measures and weights, which are compared with standards kept for the purpose †. If they are found deficient, he is fined at the discretion of the court. He must produce also, under a penalty, a copy of the Bible, with his own name written upon it. After the court (which meets on the day after St Colm's) is closed, the members dine together; and, to prevent that intemperance to which social meetings in such situations are sometimes prone, they spend the evening in some public competition of dexterity or skill. Of these, "riding at the ring," (an amusement of ancient and warlike origin), is the chief. Two perpendicular posts are erected on this occasion, with a cross beam, from which is suspended a small ring: the competitors are on horseback, each having a pointed rod in his hand; and he who, at full gallop, passing betwixt the posts, carries away the ring upon his rod gains the prize.

PLANTING.

Within the last 50 years, very extensive plantations have been made around Dunkeld; and both in point of beauty added to the landscape, and of value to the soil, there is ample remuneration made to the proprietor.

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The

* The power of the Court, in matters relative to the concerns of the Society, is supported by the civil Judge, who has on many occasions remitted the complaints of dissatisfied members to be settled by it.

† At Dunkeld, the standard for the measures is a fixed iron bar, placed on the wall of a house near the market-place, from which a part of the street takes the name of "The Gauge."

The present Duke of Atholl has planted upwards of 4000 acres. The principal species he cultivates is the larch; a small proportion of Scots firs being intermixed with them.

It is to be regretted, both by the naturalist and the landholder, that so few registers have been kept or published respecting the growth of trees. In truth, such registers it must at all times be difficult to procure, from the length of time to be passed in amassing facts, before any useful deduction can be drawn. No man loves to enter on a train of reasoning, where half a century must be spent in collecting his premises. The following Tables, stating the relative growth of different species of trees, planted at Dunkled, are given as a valuable present to the planter*. The circumference of the trees was measured 4 feet from the ground, at the dates mentioned.

* The Tables were kept, and the measurements made, by the late Mungo Murray, Esq; of Kincairney.

TABLE

TABLE I.

Species.	No	1787. Ft. In.	1795. Ft. In.	Total in- crease of each tree. Ft. In.	Total in- crease of 3 trees. Ft. In.
Ash, - - -	1	3 9	4 5	0 8	
— - -	2	3 5	3 10	0 5	
— - -	3	3 6	3 11	0 5	1 6
Beech, - - -	1	7 10	9 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
— - -	2	3 9	4 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	
— - -	3	4 5	5 4	0 11	2 8
Birch (Canada), -	1	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 4	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	
— - -	2	2 7	3 2	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	
— - -	3	2 1	2 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 2
Larix, - - -	1	6 0	6 11	0 11	
— (planted in 1743),	2	7 8	8 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	
— ditto, - - -	3	7 9	9 3	1 6	3 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lime, - - -	1	4 0	4 10	0 10	
— - -	2	3 8	4 4	0 8	
— - -	3	4 1	4 11	0 10	2 4
Oak, (planted in 1750),	1	4 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 1	0 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	
— - -	2	5 9	6 2	0 5	
— - -	3	5 5	6 1	0 8	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Spruce, - - -	1	6 0	6 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	
— - -	2	6 11	7 5	0 6	
— - -	3	3 7	4 5	0 10	2 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lucombe oak, planted in 1774, - - -	1	1 0	1 7	0 7	
— - -	2	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9	
— - -	3	1 2	1 9	0 7	1 11

TABLE

TABLE II.

Species.	No	Cir- cumf. in 1765.	Cir- cumf. in 1795.	Total in- crease of each tree.	Total in- crease of 2 trees.
		Ft. In.	Ft. In.	Ft. In.	Ft. In.
Abele, -	1	5 5	6 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	2	4 4	5 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Birch, -	1	4 0	5 10	1 10	
	2	2 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 5	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 8 $\frac{1}{4}$
Spanish chefnut, -	1	3 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 4	
	2	3 5	4 10	1 5	3 9
Scots elm, -	1	6 8	8 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	2	5 10	8 5	2 7	4 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Scots fir, -	1	6 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 3	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	2	6 9	8 7	1 10	3 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
New England fir, -	1	3 1	6 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	2	2 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 3	3 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 7
Holly, -	1	3 1	3 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	2	2 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 8	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3
Larix, -	1	4 5	7 6	3 1	
	2	4 2	6 10	2 8	5 9
Thorn, -	1	2 6	2 10	0 4	
	2	2 10	3 0	0 2	0 6
Oak, -	1	6 4	8 6	2 2	
	2	7 11	8 9	0 10	3 0

In the foregoing Tables, there are two material defects, which they who keep similar tables in future should avoid, viz. that they neither describe the soil on which the different species were planted, nor mention the age of the trees at the date of their first measurement. Still, however, useful inferences may be drawn from them, particularly when compared with such others as are on record. For the purpose

pose of such comparison, the following is given, stating the increase of some trees in a plantation belonging to the Marquis of Lansdown. They were planted in 1765, and measured in 1786, at the height of 5 feet from the ground.

TABLE III.

Increase of Circumference.

			Ft.	In.
No	1. Abele,	- -	4	8
	2. Elm,	- -	3	6
	3. Chesnut,	- -	2	9
	4. Scots fir,	- -	2	10
	5. Spruce,	- -	2	2
	6. Larix,	- -	3	10

The same objections lie against this Table as the two former, and it has this in addition, that only one tree of each species was measured. In looking at Table I. and II. remarkable differences may be observed betwixt the growth of different individuals of the same species. In this, therefore, as in other cases, where it is wished to found a general conclusion, the induction of particular cases should be extensive. - A thousand accidental circumstances may accelerate or retard the growth of one tree, which may not occur to any other in the whole plantation; but if the measurement is taken of many, the hurtful and the favourable circumstances so counterbalance each other, as to produce a fair average result, on which the planter may rely.

The important general conclusion from these Tables is, that the planting of timber-trees, if the proper species is chosen, is a profitable mode of cropping ground, if not very valuable for the plough. It is one which accumulates yearly in value, without an yearly outlay of expence, and will

will fully repay, at the time of cutting it down, the original cost, with interest for the sum, and rent during the time of growth. Of all the kinds particularly specified in the Tables, the *larix* appears, on the whole, to increase in size most rapidly. Its other qualities make it very valuable. It is fit for every purpose almost of the carpenter, is very hardy as a plant, and very lasting when in use. By a *single* experiment of Sir Thomas Beevor *, it seems not so lasting as the spruce; yet experiments innumerable shew it to have a strong claim to Pliny's appellation of *immortale lignum*. In Venice, and on the borders of the lake of Geneva, it has been found to resist, much longer than any other wood, the alternations of wet and dry. The Duke of Atholl caused one of the boats at the ferry here to be constructed of the *larix* wood; and a plank of oak, from a tree 30 years old, was put in for a test of the comparative durability of each. The oak has decayed, and the *larix* continues sound. Next to the *larix*, the elm, the birch, the spruce, and the oak, seem to claim the preference from the planter, due attention being always paid to soil. The *larix*, birch, and spruce, thrive on the same soil; and from the variety of their colours have, particularly in the winter-season, a beautiful appearance to the eye, when mixed in the same plantation.

Of the Lucombe oak, 25 were planted here in 1774. This species was first cultivated near Exeter, by a gardener of the name of Lucombe, and very flattering accounts were given of the amazing quickness of its growth, and the value of its wood †. The experiment in Table I. does not justify these accounts. It is said to be much cultivated in Somerset and Cornwall.

In

* See *Letters and Papers on Agriculture, &c. by the Bath Society*; a publication which should be perused by every farmer and landholder in the kingdom.

† See *Gentleman's Magazine*, for the month of September 1773.

In the plantations round Dunkeld, squirrels are numerous. Attempts have been repeatedly made to propagate a breed of pheasants, but always in vain. When first sent out, they are tame and sluggish, and fall an easy prey to the foxes, polecats, &c. which abound here. All the birds common to Scotland are here, and some of kinds that are rare have been seen. Since the larix (on the cones of which they live) has been cultivated, the Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) has appeared. Occasionally, too, the rose-coloured Ouzel, (*Turdus roseus*); the ash-coloured Butcher-bird, (*Lanius excubitor*); the golden-crested Wren, (*Motacilla regulus*); and the green Woodpecker, (*Picus viridis*), are found.

GARDENS.

The gardens of the Duke of Atholl lie to the north-west of the house, on a sharp light soil, with a southern aspect, and are well sheltered. Experiments on different plants have been made in them. In 1770, some seeds of the true *Rheum Palmatum*, were sent from Petersburg, by Dr Mounsey, to his Grace. They were planted, and considerable attention was paid to the culture of that root. Rhubarb, to the value of L. 160 Sterling, was sold in one season, to a London druggist, at the rate of 8s. *per lb.* In short, full proof was afforded, that rhubarb may be raised and dressed in Britain, equal, in all its qualities, to what is now, at so high a price, imported from the East Indies, and from Russia and Turkey.

The *Truffle*, (*Lycoperdon Tuber* of Linnæus), was planted here, but was not found to thrive*.

In

* Eyles Irvin, Esq; in describing his journey from Colire to Ghinnah, (p. 165. of his Series of Adventures), says, "Here and there a dwarf date
" tree

In a corner of the old gardens stands Stanley Hill, a conical mount, chiefly artificial, raised by James, Duke of Atholl, about the year 1730. On the north, it is covered with tall trees; and on the south-west, with shrubs. Broad walks, rising successively above each other, run round it. Several cannon are placed on the summit, which fire occasionally a *feu de joye* *.

The gardens of the inhabitants of Dunkeld lie partly on the south side of the town, stretching from the houses to the side of the river, which washes the bottom of the wall. They lie partly, also, on the face of the abrupt rising ground that overhangs the town upon the north-east. Rent for a small spot is paid for by each family, at the rate of L. 4 *per* acre. From its precipitous steepness, in some places, great art and industry are necessary to labour it with safety or profit. A late author, in attempting to heighten the probability of introducing horticulture with advantage, into the bleak and high regions of the west coast of Scotland, refers to the gardens of the inhabitants of Dunkeld as a case in point, to refute the objection, that the exposure and elevation are unsurmountable objections to his plan. The objection may be groundless; but these gardens do not prove

“ tree appears, and the *truffle bush* is frequent on the road, to the great de-
 “ light and benefit of the poor camel, who devours it very greedily.” He
 has mistaken the plant. The Truffle is of the class Cryptogamia, and of the
 order of Fungi. Linnæus’ description is, “ Solid, without a root, *subterra-*
 “ *neous.*”

* One of these cannon has this inscription on it: “ Henrie Earle of Der-
 “ bye, Lord of this Isle of Man, beinge heare in Maye 1577, named me Do-
 “ rothe. Henry Halsfall, Receyvoure of the Peele, bought this pefe, anno
 “ 1574.” On another, there is as follows: “ Henricus Octavus.—Tho-
 “ mas Seymour, Knyghte, was Master of the Kyng’s Ordynans, when Jhon
 “ and Robert Owyn, brethren, made this pefe, anno Dni. 1544.”

prove this*. They are not more than from 50 to 100 feet above the level of the river; and some of the richest and most productive ground in Perthshire is on a flat which lies immediately above them.

COMMONTY IN A HILL.

Dunkeld being the seat of a bishoprick, and hence of the dignified clergy, most of the lands around it belonged to them, and had several peculiar privileges. These privileges have, of course, descended to those who purchased the lands. They are thirled to no mill; they pay no custom; and there is a right of commonty attached to them, in a hill which lies to the northward of the Duke of Atholl's policy. The hill is extensive, but rocky and sterile. Some of the inhabitants, however, send their cows to graze upon it in summer, and a few peats are at times dug from its mosses. They collect, too, stones on it, for the purposes of building. It is customary *to ride the marches*, occasionally, so as to preserve in the memory of the people the limits of their property.

BRIDGE.

It appears from the history of Abbot Mill, that a bridge began to be thrown across the Tay, "partly of wood, and
Vol. XX. 3 K partly

* One is reminded here of an ingenious remark made by Mr Gray, in a letter to Mr Palgrave, who was at that time on a tour through Scotland. "I conclude you have not trusted every thing to memory, which is ten times worse than a lead-pencil. Half a word fixed on the spot, or near it, is worth a cart-load of recollection. When we trust to the picture which objects draw of themselves upon the mind, we deceive ourselves: without accurate and particular observation it is but ill drawn at first, the outlines are soon blurred, the colours every day grow fainter, and at last, when we would produce it to any body, we are forced to supply the defect by some strokes of our own imagination." *Poems and Memoirs*, p. 47. vol. iv.

"partly of stone," so early as 1469. But there is no evidence of its having been ever completed, and no vestige of it now remains. The foundation of a second bridge was laid in 1513, by Bishop Brown, "near to his own palace," and it was continued and completed by Bishop Gavin Douglas *. A part of the arch which sprang from the north bank is still entire, and when the river is low, the piles, on which the pillars of the second and the third arches were supported, are visible. No account has been transmitted, of the time at which it was demolished or swept away; but its loss is daily felt, and loudly complained of. To the casual traveller, a new bridge would be obviously a desirable accommodation, and to Dunkeld, and the large district connected with it, a most important acquisition. The river (which has been known to rise 17 feet at the ferry above its usual level) is often so swelled, as to render the passage by a boat either impracticable, or highly perilous; and the general waste of time, and danger to carriages which is experienced, (however skilfully or alertly the boats are managed), often prompts those who would have otherwise preferred Dunkeld as a market-place, to proceed to Perth. An estimate, by an engineer of talents and experience, calculates the cost of a bridge, of three arches, to be built opposite to the church of Little-Dunkeld, at L. 12,000 Sterling.

PROGRESS OF PRICE OF PROVISION AND OTHER
ARTICLES.

	1776.		1796.
Beef sold at	$2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.	-	5 d. and 6 d.
Veal	2 d. ditto,	-	$4\frac{1}{2}$ d.
			Mutton,

* The Abbot says, "*Honorifice continuavit adeo ut brevi aditum tam-agrestibus quam pedestribus fecit.*"

1776.

1796.

Mutton, 2½ d. <i>per</i> lb.	-	5 d.
Pork 2 d. ditto,	-	5 d.
A goose, 1 s.	-	2 s. 6 d.
A duck, 7 d.	-	1 s.
A hen, 6 d.	-	1 s.
Eggs, 2 d. <i>per</i> dozen,	-	4 d.
Butter, 6 d. <i>per</i> lb.	-	10 d. to 1 s.
Cheese, 3 s. <i>per</i> stone,	-	6 s.
Rabbits, 3 d. <i>per</i> pair,	-	5 d.
Coals, 6 s. <i>per</i> cart,	-	8 s.
Oak-bark, 8 d. <i>per</i> stone,	-	1 s. 3 d.
Peats, 10 d. <i>per</i> cart,	-	1 s. 3 d.

Maid-servants wages, L. 1, 10 s. - L. 3 to L. 4.

The following copy of a tavern-bill, drawn out 70 years ago, affords a curious specimen, both of the mode of living, and of the price of provision at that time :

“ DUNKELD, December 1727. Bill for Entertainment

at ———— L. s. d.

Five soups and four dishes of broth,	0	7	6
Three pieces of boiled beef with cabbage,	0	6	0
Three legs of boiled mutton with roots,	0	4	0
Three dish of white fish,	0	3	0
Three pieces of roast-beef,	0	7	0
Three legs of roast mutton,	0	4	0
Four pigs, with claret and currant sauce,	0	5	0
Roast hare, with claret sauce,	0	1	0
Three roast geese,	0	4	6
Twelve roast hens,	0	6	0

Carried over L. 2 8 0

	Brought over	L.	2	8	0
Roast tongue and lure, with claret and currant sauce,	-	-	0	2	0
Two wild ducks, and two woodcocks, with ditto	-	-	0	2	0
Two minced pyes, and two large pasties,			1	3	4
Bread,	-	-	0	5	0
Thirty-three pints and forty-two bottles of ale,	-	-	0	10	9
Five bottles of brandy,	-	-	0	10	0
Thirty-eight bottles of claret,	-	-	2	17	0
To cooks,	-	-	0	8	0
			L.	8	6 1

MISCELLANEOUS FACTS.

Houses, in Dunkeld, sell at 20 years purchase. The real rent of the town is nearly L. 1000 Sterling. The value, therefore, is nearly L. 20,000. Several new houses have been lately built.

A committee of the inhabitants fix an yearly assessment, which amounts, at an average, to L. 8 Sterling, for repairing the streets and avenues of the town.

In 1648, Sir James Galloway, Master of Requests to James VI. and Charles I. was created Lord Dunkeld*. His grandson James was attainted at the Revolution, and dying at the beginning of this century, the title became extinct.

Dunkeld is a barony, and its only magistrate a baron-bailie, appointed by the Duke of Atholl. Charles II. offered a charter of erection into a royal borough. The offer was refused.

ADVANCE

* Guthrie's Memoires, p. 255. Glas. 1747.

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES.

The *advantages* are, 1. Being, in the language of that country, "in the mouth of the Highlands," it must always command a great proportion of the trade with the extensive district beyond it. 2. Yarn and oak-bark are to be obtained, in any required quantity, in the immediate neighbourhood. 3. Wages and house-rents, though high, and rapidly rising, are yet lower than in places nearer to the centre of population and luxury. 4. Not being a royal borough, it is thus free from corporation restrictions, and from election canvassing; a canvassing which, by holding out the prospect of pleasure without expence, and of gain without labour, seduces the dissolute and the lazy, and is followed, too often, by general intemperance, corruption, and ruin. 5. The residence of the Duke of Atholl's family. Their consumption increases its trade; their improvements employ its labourers; their benevolence assists its poor; and their patronage is ready to promote the comfort and good of the whole.

The *disadvantages* are, 1. The length of land-carriage. It is 15 miles from Perth, the nearest sea-port, and the delay and hazard of a ferry, over a large river, is to be encountered by the way. 2. The dearth of fuel. Coals are never under 1 s. *per* cwt. and they have been occasionally as high as 2 s. 3. The extravagant price of ground, and the small extent, even at that price, which is, or can be expected in the market. 4. The want of water-falls: this, combined with the last, renders the erection of machinery on a large scale impracticable.

HINTS FOR IMPROVEMENT.

1. The Hill Commonly should be inclosed and planted, or exchanged, (if the Duke of Atholl is favourable to the transaction),

transaction), for his Grace's right of drawing custom at fairs and markets. The rent of these would be a permanent and regular fund, applicable to the wants of the poor, or the improvement of the town; while the privilege of the commonity has long been felt but of very precarious and scanty benefit. 2. A *Female* Friendly Society should be established, on the same principle with the Cordiners and Weavers Society. Destitute women have always formed the most numerous list of claimants on the public charitable funds. In 1755, when 14 persons were supplied weekly by the session, there were 10 women in the number; and there was no less a proportion than 40 women, out of 52 persons, supplied at an occasional distribution, in 1790. 4. A public well should be dug; the want of soft water being at present a great inconvenience. A less sum than has been expended (L.60 Sterl.) by a spirited distiller, on one for the use of his own works, and which might easily be raised by contribution or assessment, would procure a copious supply for the whole town. 5. Were it possible to establish in the neighbourhood a brewery, a bleachfield, and thread manufactory, for the latter of which, particularly, circumstances are favourable, the advantage to Dunkeld would be great.

CHARACTER OF THE INHABITANTS.

In their character there is much more to approve than to censure. They are active, industrious, and spirited. Equally observant as their neighbours of the *forms* of religion, they are not inferior in the fruits of its *spirit*. Sufficiently enlightened as to the extent of a subject's privileges and claims, it is believed that not one native of Dunkeld is seditious in principle, or disposed to turbulence in conduct. Their sympathy for the distressed is peculiarly prompt and lively; and they practice eminently the good deeds of charity.

city. They are distinguished by a frank and open-hearted civility to strangers. No one ever resorted to Dunkeld, whether as an invalid, for the recovery of his health, or as a traveller, on an excursion of amusement, without experiencing that they were a hospitable and obliging people.

This tribute is due equally to the Episcopalians and Glasfites, as to the members of the Established Church. It may be viewed as just with the greater confidence, that it is paid by one who, having resided among them for several years, is qualified to decide; and being now disconnected and distant, has nothing either to hope from their favour, or to fear from their resentment.

TO THE MEMORY

OF JANE, LATE DUCHESS OF ATHOLL,

This Account (in which some of her deeds of good are noticed) is inscribed by the Compiler; it is inscribed, in the recollection of her virtues, and her kindness, with a respect and gratitude as heart-felt as ever impressed any human being.

APPEN-

A P P E N D I X
TO THE
STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF DUNKELD.

THE Compiler of the preceding Account studiously confined it to *existing* Statistical facts. He considered these, and not *antiquities* or *history*, as forming the proper object of his paper. Indeed, had he attempted to detail the past history of Dunkeld and its inhabitants, he must have detailed the national history of Scotland, as the Bishops of that See, and the Representatives of the family of Atholl, filled, in general, a conspicuous part in the public transactions of their times. It seems, however, due to the seat of a Bishoprick, which was for centuries so eminent both in dignity and influence, that some notices should be presented of the Prelates who presided in it. In this Appendix, therefore, a catalogue shall be given of the Bishops of Dunkeld, accompanied by occasional observations respecting the most remarkable individuals of the series.

St Columba is said, by some authors, to have founded a church in Dunkeld, so early as the 6th century, (*Dr Smith's Life of St Columba*, p. 151.); and we are assured, that after the incursions of the Norwegians and Danes had ravaged and ruined Iona, where that Saint and his followers had flourished, Dunkeld became the head of the religious establishment of both the Scots and the Picts, (*Ibid*).—By other authors, however, and particularly by Abbot Mill, the ecclesiastical history of Dunkeld is not traced higher than the year 729. In that year, we are informed, that Constantine III.
King

King of the Picts, by the persuasion of Adamnanus, a disciple of St Columba, instituted a convent there, and filled it with that order of monks which were denominated Culdees. "In quo quidem Monasterio imposuit veros "religiosos quos nominat vulgus Kelideos, aliter Colideos, hoc est colentes "Deum." (*Mill*). The etymology of the name of this class of the Monastic orders, given by the Abbot, and generally adopted, seems to be erroneous. The word *Kelidei*, is, in fact, merely the Latinized Gaelic phrase *Gille De*, which signifies "Famuli Dei," or, "Servant of God." (*Life of St Columba*, p. 162.) Many obscure and angry disputations have been carried on respecting their rules and tenets. The Presbyterians, and those who are partial to the order of Bishops, each claim the Culdees as belonging to their party. There are facts in their history which tend to prove, that they affected to be *Independents*. (*Hailer's Annals of Scotland*, vol. i. p. 107.) Their convent at Dunkeld was dedicated to the Holy Trinity. (*Sir James Dalrymple's Collections*, p. 247.)

In 1127, David I. King of Scotland converted the convent into a cathedral, and in order, as it would appear, to induce the Culdees to an union with the Romish Church, he guaranteed to them during life the rights and the possessions which had formerly belonged to their convent, and he nominated their Abbot to be the Bishop of the new See. (*Dal. Col.* p. 247. and 387.)

1. GREGORY was the name of this first Bishop. After his consecration, he was made a Privy Counsellor, and obtained liberal grants from the Sovereign. He died in 1169. (*Mill*, and *Cart. Melr.* as quoted by *Keith* in his *Catalogue of Bishops*, p. 46.)

2. RICHARD DE PREBENDA. (*Fordun*, lib. viii. c. 13.) calls him "Capellanus Regis Willelmi." He was one of the Commissioners for Scotland in negotiating with Henry II. in 1174, for the release of King William, at that time a prisoner in England, (*Fœdera Angliæ*, t. i. p. 39.) and in 1176 he attended William to a council held at Northampton, by Cardinal Huguccio Petrileonis, the Pope's Legate. (*Hoveden*, 550.) *Mill* and *Keith* think he died in 1173; but the facts mentioned prove this to be a mistake. *Fordun* (lib. viii. c. 13.) says he died in 1178.

— WALTER DE BIDON. He was one of the Clerici Regis, and afterwards Chancellor of the kingdom. Though elected to the See of Dunkeld, he died before his consecration, and cannot therefore be numbered as one of its Bishops.

3. JOHN SCOT. This Prelate was, in 1177, elected Bishop of St Andrews, by the Chapter. "Electus est (*Fordun*, lib. vi. c. 35.) Rege

“Willelmo totis viribus renitente;” that Monarch passionately exclaiming, when the election was announced to him, “By the arm of St James John Scot shall never be Bishop of St Andrews.” The Pope, however, supported the pretensions of John, and a controversy ensued, which agitated Scotland, and embroiled William with the Head of the Church for several years. It was terminated at last by the nomination of John Scot to the diocese of Dunkeld, with liberty to retain the emoluments belonging to him as Archdeacon of St Andrews, an office which he previously held. (*Ford. lib. vi. c. 35, — 38.*) This Bishop had great influence with Pope Alexander III. “eum in quamlibet partem quam vellit ratione tamen “prævia inclinavit.” (*Ibid.*) That Pope, at his request, constituted Argyle, which till his time was a part of the diocese of Dunkeld, a separate See. John Scot * died in 1203, and was buried in the north side of the quire of the Abbey-church of Newbottle, “ubi (says Fordun) claret miraculis.”

4. RICHARD DE BREBENDA. He was consecrated in 1203, died at Cramond in 1210, and was buried in Inch-Colm. *Fordun, lib. viii. c. 64. et c. 78.*

5. JOHN OF LEICESTER, died in 1214. *Mill and Ford, lib. ix. c. 27.*

6. HUGO DE SIGILLO. He was a monk of Arbroath. Fordun (*lib. ix. c. 47.*) calls him “vir mansuetissimus qui dicebatur pauperum “Episcopus.” The date of his death is uncertain.

— MATHEW SCOT, at that time Chancellor of the kingdom, was elected, but died before his consecration. *Fordun, ibid.*

7. GILBERT. He had been chaplain to his predecessor Bishop Hugh. He appears as a witness to a deed of Alexander II, in 1227. A copy of this deed was published in 1771, by the late John Davidson, Esq; along with some other curious papers, all of which have been annexed as an Appendix to *The Annals of Scotland*. Though it proves that Fordun (*lib. ix. c. 47.*)

* The Bishoprick of St Andrews was then estimated at the yearly revenue of L. 8018, 3 s. and that of Dunkeld at L. 1206 : 6 : 8. *Chart. Aberbrothock, vol. i. fol. 10. as quoted in the Annals of Scotland, vol. iii. p. 205.*

e. 47.) is mistaken in saying, that Gilbert was not elected till 1229, it does not fix the date of that event. He died in 1236.

7. GALFRID LIVERANCE. He reformed the cathedral worship in imitation of the Church of Sarum, and the music according to the Gregorian manner. (*Mill.*) According to Fordun (*lib. ix. c. 63.*) he died at Tibbermuir, in 1249, and was buried in the Church of Dunkeld, "quam prædiis & possessionibus dotavit, quam regulis et institutis informavit, quam vestibus & ornamentis decoravit, quam fere per omnia exaltavit." His epitaph was,

Hac, Dunkeldensis cleri decus, ægis & ensis

Gaufridus tumba pausat, sub patre Columba.

Fordun ut supra.

After Galfrid, Abbot Mill places Richard, who was, he says, "Chancellor to the King." But as there was no Chancellor of that name about that period, Mr Keith seems to be right in conjecturing, that the Abbot has here fallen into a mistake. *Catal. of Bish. p. 50.*

Mill has been guilty of another mistake, in omitting to mention

— DAVID. He was elected in 1250, but never was consecrated. *Catal. of Bish. p. 50.*

8. RICHARD OF INVERKEITHING. He was one of the Regents of the kingdom during the minority of Alexander III. *Fæd. i. 566.* Cardinal Ottobonus de Fieschi, in 1266, came as Legate from the Pope to Scotland, and required a contribution from the Church to defray the expence of his visitation. The King, with the advice of the Clergy, forbade it to be levied. The Legate called a council, and Richard was deputed by the Bishops to attend it: "Ne quid, ipsis absentibus in eorum prejudicium statueretur." *Fordun, lib. x. c. 24.* He died in 1272, "vir (says the same author, *lib. x. c. 30.*) magnæ maturitatis & gravitatis, qui fuit fidelissimus regis & regni consiliarius & justitia inflexibilis."

9. ROBERT DE STUTEVILLE. He was Dean of Dunkeld. According to Mill he died in 1300, but historical facts disprove this. For,

10. MATHEW was elected in 1295, or earlier. In that year he appears as one of the Commissioners sent to France to negotiate with Philip an alliance, by the marriage of the daughter of the Count of Anjou with the son and heir of Baliol. *Fædera, t. ii. p. 695.* (By the treaty, L. 1500 was

was stipulated as the Lady's jointure; and of this sum, L. 500 was secured upon Crown lands in Scotland, "annui redditus de quibus mille libris Sterlingorum in locis infra scriptis, videlicet, de Lanark, de Kadioir (hodie, Hamilton), de Maldisley, de Cunyngham, de Haddington, et de Castro de Dundee in agro Scotiæ assidebit eidem.") Abbot Mill says, that in Mathew's time "St Michael killed the English Governor of Perth for oppressing the Canons." The same writer states, that this Bishop died in 1312. But he must have died in 1309, as appears from *Fæd. t. iii. p. 194.*

A Bishop of Dunkeld, most probably Mathew, was one of the ten Scottish Commissioners, who, in concurrence with twenty from England, met at Perth in 1305, immediately after the death of William Wallace, and by order of Edward, established regulations for the government of Scotland. *Riley, 503. as quoted An. of Scot. v. i. p. 312.*

II. WILLIAM SINCLAIR. On the death of Mathew, John de Leek was elected by the chapter, and Edward applied to the Pope and the College of Cardinals, (*Fæd. t. iii. p. 164, 165.*), earnestly urging the confirmation of his election; but the partizans of Robert Bruce, who favoured the election of William Sinclair, brother to the Laird of Rossin, prevailed. Leek was in 1311 appointed Archbishop of Dublin. In a letter of thanks for this appointment, written by Edward to the Pope, he is styled, "Johannis de Leek capellanus noster karissimus, nuper Dunkeldensis ecclesiæ electus." *Fæd. t. iii. 258.* Sinclair then was consecrated without opposition to the See of Dunkeld. Robert I. usually called William Sinclair "his own Bishop." This appellation he got on the following occasion. In 1317, an English fleet arrived in the Forth, and some troops which they landed at Dunebrissel, near Inverkeithing, began to ravage the country. The Sheriff of Fife collected hastily 500 men, and marched to oppose them, but intimidated by the numbers of the invaders, he fled with precipitation. William Sinclair was then at his neighbouring residence of Ochertool, and hearing of this shameful flight, he hastened to meet and rally the fugitives. Leading them again to the charge, he drove the English to their ships with considerable loss. Abbot Mill, in his life of this Prelate, thus narrates this occurrence, transcribing pretty closely from Fordun, lib. xii. c. 25. "Episcopus se cito ornavit, equum ascendit cum sexaginta suis ad prælium doctis et cito obvium habuit vicecomitem cui clara voce dixit. "Cur tam vecorditer revertitis?" Respondet Vicecomes "Quia Angli plures nobis sunt et multo fortiores." Respondet Episcopus "Dignum certe esset Regi calcaria deaurata a talis vestris præscindi mandare. Sequere me nomine Domini (Sancto Columba patrocinate cujus terram destruunt) super eos ulti erimus." Hoc dicto, chiminile a se rejecto, diram lanceam manu arripuit, equum calcaribus urget, nec dixit vicecomiti,

mīti, "prior i" sed "Sequere;" quem secuti, et cum hostibus congressi, victoria sunt feliciter potiti." Fordun expresses the latter part of the description thus: "Ad pauca, victoriā meritis, verbis, et verberibus hujus inclyti præfulis sunt potiti." Barbour, p. 344. says of the Bishop, "He was right hardy, meikle, and stark." It has been asserted, that in 1332 he assisted at the coronation of Edward Baliol, at Scone; and that his signature is found at that disgraceful instrument, by which the Scottish Parliament held at Edinburgh in 1333, surrendered the independence and liberty of their country to the English Monarch. Lord Hailes (*An. of Scot.* v. ii. p. 172, and 188.) is of this opinion. Yet it seems probable, that William Sinclair died before either of these transactions took place. For Keith (*Catal. of Bish.* p. 52.) proves that *Walter* was Bishop of Dunkeld so early as 1324. At the same time, as the signature of *William*, as Bishop of the See, appears at different public deeds, from 1325 to 1337, we must conclude that *Walter* died in the end of 1324, or the beginning of 1325, and that another *William* succeeded before the end of the last-mentioned year; and it will then be *this* William, and not William Sinclair, who, deserting the interest of the King who called him his own Bishop, crowned Baliol; and who acceded to the humiliation of his country, in order to gratify Edward in 1333. *Catal. of Bish.* p. 52.

According to this opinion, the next Bishop to be reckoned in the order of succession is,

12. WALTER.

13. WILLIAM. He died in 1337.

14. DUNCAN. Abbot Mill says that he died in 1363. But in this he was mistaken. He died before 1356.

15. JOHN. In 1356 he was present in the Parliament which met at Edinburgh, and agreed to pay 100,000 merks to the English for the ransom of David II. *Fæd.* t. vi. 39, 40. In 1369 he was a witness to the treaty for a truce between England and Scotland, for 14 years. *Fæd.* t. vi. 632. Abbot Mill has omitted this Bishop.

16. MICHAEL MONYMUSK. He was great Chamberlain of Scotland, and died in 1376. *Mill.*

17. JOHN PEEBLIS. This Bishop was King's Chancellor, and intrusted with various important national negotiations. *Fæd.* t. vii. p. 441. It

was he who drew up the celebrated act of Parliament which recognised the title of Robert II. to the throne of Scotland. He died in 1396.

18. ROBERT DE CAIRNEY. He shewed great zeal and assiduity in adorning the cathedral, and improving the revenues of his diocese. Till his time the Bishop's palace consisted of several long houses, of two floors only, and covered with thatch, in the Highland form. He built in their place a spacious edifice, fit for defence as well as accommodation. It contained, Mill particularly informs his reader, "Granaries and a larder." Although no vestige of it remains at present, its site is still called "the *Castle Close*." He acquired the lands of Gramond in excambion for Cammo. *Catal. of Bish.* p. 53. The chartulary of Cambuskenneth, as quoted (*Ibid.*) mentions that this Bishop was excommunicated for refusing to comply with the formalities of ecclesiastical processes required by the Pope. He was one of the hostages for the redemption of James I. *Fæd.* t. v. p. 125. He died in 1436. It is this Bishop's monument which is mentioned, p. 421. of the preceding Statistical Account, as in the south aisle of the cathedral.

19. DONALD MACNAUGHTAN. He was Dean of Dunkeld, and elected by the chapter on the death of Robert; but King James opposing his appointment, he took a journey to Rome to obtain confirmation from the Pope. On this journey he died. Nisbet (*Heraldry*, p. 419.) gravely says, "Donald Macnaughtan was by James II. raised to the Episcopal See of Dunkeld, where he exercised his Episcopal function till his death, as in *Spottiswood's History of the Church of Scotland*." It happens unfortunately for the credit of Mr Nisbet's accuracy, that Spottiswood, in the passage referred to, says, as already mentioned, that "James opposed this Bishop's election, and he died on his way to Rome." *Spot.* p. 100.

20. JAMES KENNEDY. He was the son of Sir James Kennedy of Dunure, by Mary, younger daughter of Robert III. and Queen Annabel. In 1440 he was translated to St Andrews, became a Privy Counsellor, and Chancellor of Scotland, and afterwards one of the Regents of the kingdom, during the minority of James III. *Historical Genealogy of the Royal House of Stuarts*, by Mark Noble, p. 88.

21. ALEXANDER LAUDER, who had been Rector of Ratho: "Venerabilis vir, (says Fordun, *lib.* xvi. c. 26.) et nunc morum probitate conspicuus."

22. JAMES

22. JAMES BRUCE, formerly Rector of Kilmeny in Fife. He became Chancellor of the kingdom, and was promoted to the See of Glasgow, but died before his translation.

— WILLIAM TURNBULL, was nominated in 1447 to succeed James Bruce in the See of Dunkeld; and on the death of that Bishop he was promoted to be his successor in that of Glasgow.

23. JOHN RALSTON, Dean of Dunkeld, and Secretary to the King. He was raised to the See in 1448; was afterwards created Lord High Treasurer, and employed in several foreign embassies. *Fæd.* t. ii. p. 242. In his zeal to finish the aisle of the cathedral, which had been begun by Bishop Robert de Cairney, he went daily himself, and took with him his occasional guests, to assist in preparing the stones for the building. Abbot Mill says, "cum uno vel alio procerum secum habitantium, solebat certa lapidum onera extra lapicidinam ferre quotidie." This writer adds, that Bishop John died about 1450; but it was in 1452.

24. THOMAS LAUDER succeeded. He had been Master of the Hospital of Soutra, and tutor to James II. He got the lands of the Bishoprick which lay on the south side of the Forth erected into a barony, by the name of the Barony of Aberlady; and the lands on the north side into a barony, by the name of the Barony of Dunkeld. Abbot Mill, who lived in Bishop Lauder's time, says of him: "This venerable Prelate had such acquaintance with divinity, that he himself preached the faith to his people." *Dr Bisset's translation, M. S.* He died in 1481, having in 1476 resigned the See on account of his advanced age. After his resignation, he was styled "Episcopus in universali ecclesia,"

25. JAMES LIVINGSTON, Rector of Forteviot and Weem. He erected a chaplainry in honour of St Columba, in the church of St Giles in Edinburgh. He died in 1483.

— ALEXANDER INGLIS was next elected by the chapter, but the Pope annulled the election.

— ROBERT appears as Bishop of Dunkeld in 1485. *Catalogue of Bishops*, p. 56. This fact it is difficult to reconcile with the history of Mill, who lived at the time, and does not mention a Bishop of that name.

26. GEORGE

26. GEORGE BROWN, Rector of Tynnyngham, was consecrated, according to Mill, in 1484, at Rome, by Pope Sixtus IV. He was strict in enforcing ecclesiastical discipline, and active in advancing the temporal interest of his Bishoprick. He built the church of Dowally; and died at his house on the island in the Loch of Cluny, in 1514.

— ANDREW STEWART, son to John, Earl of Atholl, was elected by the chapter, but Pope Leo X. opposed his admission.

27. GAVIN DOUGLAS, brother to the Earl of Angus, who was Rector of Heriot, and Provost of the collegiate church of St Giles in Edinburgh, was preferred by the Pope, and in 1516 obtained possession of the See. He holds an eminent place in the literary history of his age. He was a profound classical scholar, a well informed antiquarian, and an elegant poet. He wrote, *Aureæ Narrationes, Comediæ aliquot Sacræ; & De Rebus Scoticis*; but none of these works have descended to our times. His *Palace of Honour*, and his *Translation of the Æneid of Virgil*, however, still remain, and present very honourable monuments of both the correctness of his taste, and the vigour of his imagination. Living in dark and turbulent times, he enjoyed not the felicity of indulging his genius in security and repose. He was involved in the agitations and hazards of those commotions with which the disputes of the Queen Mother and the Duke of Albany, and of Arran and Angus, embroiled the kingdom. To avoid these, he retired to England, when he became the intimate acquaintance of Polydore (Virgil). He died in London of the plague, in 1522, and was buried in the Savoy.

28. ROBERT COCKBURN. In 1524, this Bishop, with the Earl of Caillie and Abbot Mill, went as Ambassadors from James V. to Henry VIII. of England, to negotiate a truce between the two kingdoms. They were successful in the embassy. *Fæd. t. xiv. p. 27.*

29. GEORGE CRICHTON. "A man (says Spottiswood, *Hist. of the Ch. of Scot.* p. 101.), nobly disposed, and a great housekeeper; but in matters of his calling not very skilled." Dean Forrest, (afterwards condemned and burnt on the Castle Hill of Edinburgh), had been called before the Bishop on a charge of heresy. "I thank God (said Crichton) that I never knew either the Old or the New Testament, and yet have prospered well enough. Dean Thomas, if you leave not these fantasies, you will repent when you cannot mend it." He died in 1543.

30. JOHN

30. JOHN HAMILTON, Abbot of Paisley, and brother to the Earl of Arran. In 1550, he was translated to St Andrews.

31. ROBERT CRICHTON, nephew to the former Bishop George Crichton, was promoted to this See, in which he remained till the Reformation.

Catalogue of the BISHOPS of DUNKELD, from the period of the Reformation to the Revolution, in 1688.

1. JAMES PATON. In 1572 an Assembly of the Church was held at Leith, where it was agreed to retain the order of Bishops in the new ecclesiastical constitution. This agreement was ratified, as an *interim* regulation, at a future Assembly, which met soon after at Perth. In consequence of this regulation, James Paton was appointed to the See of Dunkeld. (*Spottiswood's Hist. of the Ch. of Scot.* p. 260, 261.) In 1575 he was present in the General Assembly, (*Ibid.* p. 276.), and was deposed on a charge of dilapidation of his benefice. *Catal. of Bish.* p. 179.

2. PETER ROLLOCK. In 1596 he was created an extraordinary Lord of Session, and being afterwards removed, in order to reduce the number of extraordinary Lords to four, he was re-admitted in 1610. (*Lord Hailes's Catalogue of Lords of Sess.* p. 12. note 45.) In 1603 he attended King James to England. *Spot. Hist. of the Ch. of Scot.* p. 476.

3. JAMES NICOLSON. He was Parson of Meigle, and was chosen to preside in the Assembly which met at Linlithgow in 1606. (*Calderwood*, p. 552.) He died in 1607.

4. ALEXANDER LINDSAY, Parson of St Madox, succeeded. He was deposed in 1638. (*Acts of Assembly.*) It appears that he next year abjured Episcopacy, and accepted his former charge of St Madox. Unprinted *Acts of Assembly*, 1639.

5. GEORGE HALYBURTON, Minister of Perth, was appointed Bishop of Dunkeld by Charles II. in 1662. He died in 1664.

6. HENRY GUTHRIE, was Minister at Stirling, but deposed "for malignancy," in 1648. (*His own Memoirs*, p. 299.) After the Restoration he was again admitted to the office of the ministry, and became Bishop of Dunkeld in 1665.

7. WILLIAM LINDSAY, Minister at Perth, was consecrated to this See in 1677; and died in 1679.

8. ANDREW BRUCE, Archdeacon of St Andrews, was advanced to the Bishoprick of Dunkeld on the death of William Lindsay, and was ejected in 1686, for his opposition to the measures of the Court. In the year following, "his Majesty's dispensation (says Keith, p. 180.) was issued to " Dr Bruce, for exercising the office of the ministry." Mr Keith adds, not unnaturally, "A right strange paper truly!" In the year 1688 he was appointed Bishop of Orkney.

9. JOHN HAMILTON, son to John Hamilton, who was Archbishop of St Andrews at the time of the Reformation. This Prelate survived the Revolution, and died one of the Ministers of Edinburgh, and subdean of the Chapel Royal.

Catalogue of the MINISTERS of DUNKELD since the Revolution.

1. MR CHALMERS.
2. MR STODART.
3. MR STEWART.
4. MR MAN.
5. DR BAIRD.
6. MR NIVEN, the present incumbent.

Such is a catalogue of the Clergy, who, whether under the Romish, the Episcopalian, or the Presbyterian establishment, have, for a period of a thousand years, presided over the services of religion in Dunkeld. The observations which accompany the names, will, it is hoped, have three effects. They will, 1. Illustrate the ancient dignity and influence of the See. 2. They will enable any future editor of *Abbot Mill's History of the Bishops*, (a work which has often been called for by the antiquarian), to correct several mistakes into which that writer has fallen. And, lastly, They will lead the casual traveller, as he reviews with delight the modern beauties of the scene, to muse in melancholy, but not unpleasing or vain retrospection, over former times; times when here the Ministers of Kings, long since fallen, sought retirement and repose; and where many a Prelate, whose ashes now moulder around, once displayed his magnificence, exerted his genius, and indulged his devotion.

END OF APPENDIX.

STATISTICAL ACCOUNT

OF THE

CITY OF DUNKELD, AND PARISH OF DOWALLY,

(COUNTY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING,
AND PRESBYTERY OF DUNKELD.)

II. *Of Dowally.*

NAME.

THIS parish is known in the Gaelic language by two different names. *Dubb-alein*, "the Black Meadow," is the word from which the English name *Dowally* is derived; and *Dail-a-Gharne*, "Haugh of the Cairn," is that by which it is at present generally denominated in conversation. It is thought to have received the former appellation, which is now gone into disuse, from the black heath with which the surface of the low grounds was once covered;

ed; and the former, from a large cairn *, which stood till within these few years, a little to the eastward of the church.

SITUATION AND EXTENT.

Dowally was originally a part of the parish of Caputh, and though it is now considered as united to Dunkeld, there is no evidence existing of any formal annexation having taken place. It is situated to the westward of Dunkeld, from which it is separated by an interjected portion of Caputh; and the main-body of it stretches along the north bank of the Tay, in the shape of a parallelogram, beginning about a mile and a half above Dunkeld, and extending six miles. At the upper extremity, the parish of Logierait occurs; and a small stripe of it passing across Dowally, divides the main body mentioned from the barony of Dalcapon, which is an appendage belonging to it. This barony lies on the north bank of the Tumble, in length three quarters of a mile. The breadth of the parish is uncertain. For as the side of it which is most remote from the river, consists entirely of high, barren, and uninhabited hills, it has never been thought of importance to ascertain its line of limit with minuteness.

An able surveyor, who is well acquainted with the country, computes the extent of Dowally, in Scotch acres, as follows:

* When this cairn was removed, it was found to consist entirely of land-stones, and to have in the centre a single stone-coffin, 6 feet in length, and 4 in breadth, with a quantity of rich black earth, but no bones within it. The cairn was 30 feet in diameter, and about 6 in height.

1200 arable,

1000 pasture and meadow,

260 oak wood,

2460 total within the head-dykes,

9000 hill pasture,

120 Loch Ordie,

11,580 total of the parish.

SURFACE AND SOIL.

The rocky hills of King's Seat and Craigy Barns rise on the lower boundary of Dowally. They present a very precipitous and picturesque appearance towards the east. Their front has every where been covered with trees, where trees could find earth in which to fix their roots; but the bare and bold crags are often seen jutting out, and here and there are interspersed patches, covered with heath. A cottage has been built in the midst of a small green field, near the summit, in a hollow of the hill, which, catching the eye of the traveller, contributes to the pleasing effect of the general landscape.

King's Seat springs with a very sudden and steep ascent from the brink of the river; and the road, which passes through Dowally, and leads to Atholl, has been cut with great labour and expence along the bottom of it. The road overhangs the river so closely, and at such a height, that the timid traveller, who looks over the wall which has been built to support it, is disposed to hasten on his way; but as a range of tall and thick trees intercept the view, they conceal the terrors of the scene, while they add, at the same time, to its singular beauty. When the traveller has journeyed upward about two miles from Dunkeld, he leaves the Duke of Atholl's policy, and though no longer meeting

meeting with planting, he finds natural woods every where skirting the road, which runs along the declivity. Below the road, several level haughs run out in different places, to fill up the meanders of the river; and above it, lie some gently sloping fields, which reach nearly to the summit of the hill. The declivity of the hill is frequently seamed by pretty deep ravines. Bridges are thrown across them. Of these, there are 27 within the length of the parish of Dowally. So rapid is the ascent of the declivity, that, in some cases, while the wall of one side of the bridge is not 3 feet above the surface, the wall of the other is above 30.

The soil of the haughs is light and sandy; that of the higher fields, upon the brow of the hill, is deeper and stronger, with a slight mixture of clay. The hill is composed of schistus intermixed with pyrites, and contains some scattered grains of copper ore.

INHABITANTS.

Numbers and Age.—By a very accurate list of the inhabitants, taken in 1790, it appeared that they were in number, and of age, as follows :

Number of souls,	-	687 *
———— males,	-	307
———— females,	-	380
Under 10 years of age,	-	172
From 10 to 20,	-	120
—— 20 to 50,	-	264
—— 50 to 70,	-	107
—— 70 to 100,	-	24

The

* In the Statistical Account of Dunkeld it is said, that the population in 1755 amounted to 1298; but this number included the population also of Dowally, at that period. At present, the population of the united parishes is 1773. There is an excess therefore of 475 beyond the population of 1755.

The whole inhabitants may be considered as employed in agriculture; for though there is a smith, two wrights, and two tailors in the parish, yet all of them, to some small extent, are concerned in labouring the ground. There are no separate manufactures yet established here. The number of inhabitants, compared with the number of acres in the parish, allows 1 to 17 acres.

Baptisms.—The register of baptisms has been kept, and with unusual regularity; and from that register it appears, 1. That during a period of 76 years, preceding 1797, there have been born 687 males, and 572 females. 2. That while the population continued nearly the same, the number of births in different years has differed very widely. In 1711, 1726, and 1752, the total number was 6; and in 1712, 1725, and 1751, the years immediately adjoining to these, they were respectively 13, 16, and 20. In some years they amounted to 24; but the average number may be rated at 16. This average number is at the rate of 1 birth to 43 persons. 3. That in different years the proportion of male and female births also differs widely. In 1780 there were 16 males born, and 6 females; while, in 1782, there were 10 female, and only 7 male births. 4. That, as the number of families in the parish amounts to 164, and the number of births annually is 16, there is 1 annual birth for each 10 families.

Twins.—From the register of baptism it also appears, 1. That of 1225 children born in this parish, 34 were twins; therefore 1 twin child for every 34 born. 2. That of the 34 twins, 23 were males, and 11 females. 3. That though it has been concluded from observations made in other places, that the number of males prevailed in those years in which male twins were born, and that of the females

males in those years in which female twins were born, yet no such coincidence appears here. In 1766, 2 twin male children were born; and in that year there were 11 female, and only 10 male births: and in 1794, the number of male and female births was equal, and there were 2 twins male, and no females born.

Marriages.—There is a regular register of the marriages in this parish for 80 years; from which it appears, 1. That the total number of marriages recorded during that period is 544; making the average annual number about 7. 2. That there is 1 marriage annually for 98 inhabitants. 3. That whether the proportion of baptisms and marriages is taken for the whole period, or for any 10 consecutive years, indifferently selected, the marriages are less than a half, but more than a third, of the baptisms.

Deaths.—Of these no regular record has been kept.

ECCLESIASTICAL STATE.

Minister and Session.—In the account of Dunkeld the ecclesiastical statistics of the united parishes have already been stated. It is only farther to be mentioned, respecting the stipend of the minister, that in 1751, when the General Assembly authorised a petition to Parliament for a general augmentation of the stipends of the Clergy of Scotland, they specified the stipend of Dunkeld, as one, among others, which, from its scantiness, furnished reasonable grounds for their application. It was then stated at L. 66 : 19 : 9 by the Committee of the Assembly; and even by those heritors who opposed the petition, calculated at no more than L. 79, 10 s. 7 d. *—The minister preaches here one diet on the afternoon

* See Printed Report of a Committee of the House of Commons, in 1751, p. 358.

ternoon of every second Sabbath. On the forenoon of these days he preaches at Dunkeld, and afterwards rides to Dowally, a distance of 5 miles, to perform divine service there. This parish has a session, a session-clerk, and register, separate from those of Dunkeld, and the poor's funds are kept distinct from those of the other.

Church.—It is a long, narrow, inelegant structure, and very incommodiously seated. It was built by Bishop Brown in the year 1500. “Upon information that the Irish was spoken in the Highland parts of the parish of Caputh, the Bishop built and endowed a church in honour of the blessed Mother, St Anne *, among the woods of the Church-lands of Dowally †.” In 1755 it had become ruinous, and was then repaired and new-seated at the expence of the tenants.

School.—There is no salary allotted for a parish schoolmaster here, by consequence there is no parish school. For many years the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge fixed one of their schools here, and the good effects of it were conspicuous; but lately they have withdrawn it, and at present the only school in the parish is taught by one of the inhabitants, who is at the same time a farmer. The parishioners lately built a commodious school-house for him, and the Duke of Atholl, by giving him his little farm on easy terms, affords him such encouragement, as with the school-fees, induces him to undergo the labour of teaching.

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He

* There is a well still named St Anne's Well, a little to the northward of the church.

† *Dr Bisset's MS Translation of Abbot Mill's History.* It is said in the original history, after the sentence of which the translation is transcribed above, “*et mansum pro presbytero assignavit.*”

He teaches the children reading of English, writing, arithmetic, church-music, and the principles of religion. He instituted a Sunday school of his own accord, which is very numerously attended, particularly on those alternate Sundays when there is no sermon in the church of Dowally. Then the parents of the scholars also attend, while the schoolmaster, by examining the young, by reading the Scriptures, and by prayer, instructs and edifies the meeting. His merit, both in the establishment and conduct of this school, is high. He has now taught it for above two years without salary from any quarter, and almost without any remuneration whatever.

Poor, and their Funds.—There are no begging poor who belong to this parish, and none who receive a regular periodical allowance from the session. The people, indeed, from a respectable pride of spirit, have a strong reluctance to apply for aid from the public charity; and in cases where necessity compels any individual or family to do so, it is customary for some of their neighbours to request the authority of the session for a general collection, to be made for the specific case. The only distribution of funds that takes place, is made annually at the beginning of the winter season. The session then meet, and each elder reports the state of the most indigent residing in his district of the parish. Relief is ordered on the occasion in proportion to the degrees of necessity stated; but there are many instances of the sums so ordered being refused.

The funds of the poor amounted, in 1787, to L. 4 Sterling. By the accumulated produce of the collection at the church-door every fortnight, which is, at an average, 3 s. 6 d. of the fees for the use of a mortcloth, lately purchased, and

and of some casual donations *, they are now (1798) equal to L. 36 Sterling.

In 1783, the inhabitants of Dowally partook of the benefit of the bounty of the Duke of Atholl, who, (as mentioned in the Account of Dunkeld), bought that year 500 bolls of meal, and sold it at a reduced price in this district of the dukedom. His Grace, at the same time, purchased 300 bolls of oats, and a large quantity of hay, which was disposed of in a similar manner, and proved a most acceptable and beneficial accommodation to many, who had suffered severely from the inclemencies of the preceding season. He brought also seed potatoes from England, and distributed them *gratis* to his tenants. Inhabitants of Dowally! Let your grateful language to your Benefactor be that of Elisha to the Shunamite, "Behold, thou hast been careful for us with all this care, What shall be done for thee †?"

LIVE STOCK.

Horses.—The number of horses in the parish is 197. They are of a mixed breed, on an average, 12 hands high; and at the usual rate of sale for some years past, may be valued at L. 12 Sterling. Hitherto, the parish has not reared a sufficient number for its own supply. The practice of rearing foals has now, however, become frequent, and it is probable, that in a few years the farmers will be able not only to furnish this supply, but to afford some horses for sale.

Black-

* The casual donations alluded to, arise chiefly from the *price of stray sheep*, which sometimes join the flocks of the tenants in the hill, and whose owners cannot be found. These are sold for the benefit of the poor.

† 2 KINGS, iv. 13.

Black-Cattle.—Their number amounts to 506. Their average weight, when fat, is about 16 stone; and their price from L. 5 to L. 6 Sterling. They give 5 pints of milk a day. Few are reared for sale. Calves, sold at 3 days old, bring 6 s.; and if kept for 3 weeks, from 15 s. to L. 1 Sterling. When rearing, they are allowed 4 pints of milk a day; and at times get a smaller quantity of milk, and in lieu of the remainder some *bay-tea*.

The breed of black-cattle here requires improvement; but while the practice of overstocking prevails, and there is a deficiency of winter and spring food, this improvement is impracticable. Both of these obstacles will, it is hoped, soon be removed. As a proof, however, that they still operate, and check the spirit which should actuate the farmers, it was found, that no bull was sent from this district as a competitor for the premium allowed by the Highland Society, to the proprietor of the best bull which should be produced there.

Sheep.—There are 2350 sheep in the parish, of a small white-faced breed. The time of their introduction into this part of the country is uncertain; but from tradition it appears to be remote. They are said to have prevailed before the black-faced sheep were brought into the north of Scotland. When fat, their mutton is delicious. Their wool is short and fine; sells from 16 s. to L. 1 Sterl. *per* stone. The widders and aged ewes are sold at an annual fair held at Kilmorich, a village in the parish, and bring about 7 s. No cheese is ever made here from ewe milk. The whole sheep belonging to the parish feed promiscuously on the hill. They are driven to that pasture at the beginning of summer, and are brought back to the low grounds after harvest, where they have been permitted, from the want of inclosures, to wander at large through the woods, and over the
arable

arable fields, during the winter and the spring. Some of them, indeed, are housed at that time in the night, and these the tenants do not smear. They smear, however, all those which are not housed. The latter are seldom subject to that disease called by sheep-farmers the *poke*, (a swelling under the jaw), or to the scab; but the former are frequently visited by both. The *poke*, particularly, often proves fatal. Hitherto no rate of proportion has been established betwixt the number of arable acres which a tenant possesses, and the number of sheep he may keep upon the common pasture. Each keeps as many as his convenience or inclination prompts. The possessor of 8 acres has sometimes in the hill sheep to the amount of double the number of the possessor of 16 acres. Sheelings are less numerous and less frequented than formerly, because the milch-cows are not sent there, as they once were, in summer with the sheep. All the lambs in this parish are reared for sale as ewes or wedders.

Swine.—Many families fatten one or two swine in autumn with potatoes, and with, at times, a small mixture of oats. These they kill and cure for use, during the labours of the spring. They are of a hardy, but a small-sized breed, feeding to about 9 stone weight on an average, and may be valued at L. 1, 10 s.

Poultry.—No attention is paid to poultry, as an article of food or of sale. Some geese are reared, which in June are sent to Loch Ordie, a lake amid the hills, in the back parts of the parish, where, without any person to protect or feed them, they live till the end of harvest, and then are brought back to fatten on the stubble fields. They are sold at 2 s. 6 d.

VALUE

VALUE OF LIVE STOCK.

The value of live stock in the parish may be computed as under :

197 Horses, at L. 12 Sterling each,	L. 2364	0	0
506 Black-cattle, at L. 5,	-	2530	0 0
2354 Sheep, at 7 s.	-	823	18 0
100 Swine, at L. 1, 10 s.	-	150	0 0

Total value of live stock, L. 5867 18 0

Besides the domestic animals, forming the live stock of the parish, most of the *wild quadrupeds* inhabiting the north of Scotland are to be found here.

Red Deer,—(*Cervus elaphus*), appear in this parish of late, during the hard frosts and deep snows which in winter drive them from the high mountains, where they pasture in summer. The multiplication of this species of deer, since the Duke of Atholl has so particularly protected them, accounts for their being seen here more frequently of late years than formerly. His Grace has a tract of 100,000 acres reserved chiefly for them, and it is computed that not less than 4000 feed there constantly. The size of the deer has increased with the improvement of their pasture. Some have been shot which weighed above 18 stone. It would not be difficult for the Duke to furnish a royal hunt, more splendid than that given by one of his predecessors in former times, of which Barclay, who was a spectator, has transmitted to us so minute and so splendid a description *.

Roe

* Anno redemptionis nostræ 1563. Comes Atholicæ ex regio sanguine princeps, venationem, ingenti apparatu et magnis sumptibus optimæ atque illustrissimæ

Roe Deer,—(*Cervus capreolus*), are abundant here. Being at one time nearly extirpated in this neighbourhood, they obtained a jubilee for a tract of years, and now are often to be heard and seen in the woods.

Rein Deer,—(*Cervus tarandus*, Linnæi), may, without great impropriety, be mentioned here, as introduced to this country by the Duke of Atholl. Both Buffon and Pontoppidan say, that it would be a vain attempt to naturalise this species in any country south of Lapland, or with a climate less vigorous*. Several facts contradict this assertion. Mr Hyde, at Homerton near Hackney, had one rein deer which lived with him near three years*. Sir Matthew White Ridley was also successful in bringing them to Britain, and in preserving them for a considerable period†. No fewer than 14 were at different times brought from Lapland by the Duke of Atholl, and though his Grace has not succeeded in preserving the breed of them to Scotland, his experiments afford reason to hope, that future trials may be more fortunate.

illustrissimæ Reginæ Scotiæ exhibuit, cui ego tunc adolescens interfui, hujus modi venationem nostrates Regiam appellare solent. Habebat autem Comes ad duo millia Scotorum montanorum quos vos hic Scotos sylvestres appellatis, quibus negotium dedit ut cervos cogerent ex sylvis et montibus Atholiæ, Badenachæ, Marriæ, Moraviæ, aliisque vicinis regionibus atque ad locum agerent ad venationem destinatum. Ille vero, ut valde pernices sunt & expediti ita dies noctesque concursarunt, ut intra bimensis tempus amplius duo millia cervorum cum dameis et capreis unum in locum compulerunt, quos Reginæ principibusque in valle confidentibus et cæteris qui una aderant omnibus visendos venandosque proposuerunt." *Barclay contra Monarchomachos*, p. 81, 82.

* *Miscellanies by Daines Barrington*, p. 152. where Buffon, t. xii. p. 98. and Pontoppidan, t. ii. p. 216. are quoted.

† *History of Quadrupeds*, published at Newcastle, with engravings by Bewick.

fortunate. The failure of the scheme in his case, arose in a great degree from the reduced and weakly state in which the animals arrived in this country, from the accidental length and storminess of the passage. Several died during the voyage, and most of those who came alive to land, survived for a few days only. One, however, lived two years. It was kept in general with the fallow deer in the park at Atholl House, but was also led, at times, to the summit of the highest mountains in the neighbourhood, where the lichen, which forms the favourite food of the species in their native regions, is found in plenty. This lichen is the *lichen rangiferinus* of Linnæus, or the *rein-deer liver-wort*.

Rabbits.—There is a rabbit warren in this parish. It is in a low sandy haugh, two miles to the westward of Dunkeld, and has been let at L. 25 Sterling of rent. On an average, 125 dozen were killed by the tacksmen yearly. The skins may be valued at 6 s. a dozen, and the body sells at the rate of 5 d. *per* pair. To prevent the rabbits from injuring the plantations near them, by stripping the bark in a severe winter, branches of trees were lopped off and thrown into the warren. This precaution had the desired effect.

Hares abound here. The *lepus variabilis*, as well as the *lepus timidus*, is to be met with, though in general this species prefers the tops of the highest mountains.

The *Ermine*, (*Mustela erminea*), has been seen in this parish. The fur is shorter than that of those skins brought from Russia.

Here, too, is the fox, badger, pine-martin, polecat, weasel, otter, rat, mouse, mole, urchin, and bat.

Most

Most of the *birds*, native or migratory, in the northern parts of Scotland, are to be found here. Of the first kind, are grouse, partridge, black-cock, ring-dove, raven, rook, &c. Of the last, the wood-cock *, pied-oyster-catcher, northern-diver, goat-sucker, &c. The *capercallie* appears to have been once a native bird of this country, but is now extinct †.

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CROPS

* A woodcock, supposed to have been bred here, was shot upon the 12th of August.

† There is a curious proof of the capercallie formerly being in this neighbourhood, in a letter from King James, in 1617, to the Earl of Tullibardine, ancestor to the Duke of Atholl. A copy of it cannot fail to amuse the reader.

“ JAMES,

Right trustie, and right well beloved cosen and counsellor, We greet you well. Albeit, Our knowledge of your dutiful affection to the good of Our service, and your countries credite, doeth sufficientlie persuade us that you will earnestlie endeavour yourself to expresse the same be all meanes in your power; yet there being some things in that behalf requisite, which seem, notwithstanding, of so meane moment, as in that regard, both you and others might neglect the same, if Our love and care of that Our native kingdom, made Us not the more to trie their nature and necessity, and accordingly to give order for preparation of every thing that may in any sort import the honour and credite thereof. Which consideration, *and the known commoditie yee have to provide, capercallies and termigantis*, have moved Us very earnestlie to request you, to employ both your ounne paines and the travelles of your friendis, for provision of each kind of the saidis foules, to be now and then sent to Us be way of present, be meanes of Our deputy thesaurer; and so as the first sent thereof may meet us on the 19th of April, at Durham, and the rest as we shall happen to meet and ran-counter them in other places, on our way from thence to Berwick. The raritie of these foules will both make their estimation the more pretious, and confirm the good opinion conceaved of the good chaze to be had there. For which respectis, not doubting but that yee will so much the more earnestlie endeavour yourself to give Us good satisfaction a rent the premises, as yee will do Us acceptable service, We bid you farewell. At Whitehall, the 14th Marche, 1617.”

CROPS AND CULTURE.

Till within these few years, the state of agriculture in this parish was extremely rude. Four horses were often seen working abreast in the same plough, and the driver in front of them, walking backwards. The plough was of a clumsy construction, with unwieldy wooden mould-boards. The farmer, whatever the state of the weather was, obstinately adhered to the immemorial practice of beginning to plough on Old Candlemas Day, and to sow on the 20th of March. Summer fallow, turnip crops, and sown grass, were unknown; so were compost dunghills, and the purchasing of lime. Clumps of brushwood, and heaps of stones, every where interrupted and deformed the fields. The customary rotation of their general crops was, 1. Barley; 2. Oats; 3. Oats; 4. Barley; and each year they had a part of the farm employed in raising flax. The operations respecting these took place in the following succession. They began on the day already mentioned to *rib* the ground, on which they intended to sow barley, that is, to draw a wide furrow, so as merely to make the land, as they termed it, red. In that state this ground remained, till the fields assigned to oats were ploughed and sown. This was in general accomplished by the end of April. The farmer next proceeded to prepare for his flax crop, and to sow it, which occupied him till the middle of May, when he began to harrow, and dung, and sow, the ribbed barley land. This last was sometimes not finished till the month of June.

It was not difficult for an enlightened observer to trace the causes which produced and had perpetuated this rude state of agricultural practice. Where there are burdensome services to be performed by the tenant; where there is no inclosing, and no winter herding; where leases are short, and where the farm of one tenant consists of disconnected patches,

patches, lying interspersed with the patches of other tenants, it is impossible that in any case agriculture should advance in improvement *. Some of these obstacles existed in Dowally, and the Duke of Atholl, who is the sole proprietor of the parish, saw, and sought to remove them. It is pleasing to add, that his Grace's plans for this purpose have been successful, and that while his rent has been considerably heightened, both the face of the country, and the condition of the tenantry, have been at the same time sensibly meliorated.

The new arrangements respecting the crops and the culture of the parish, drew their efficacy from the five following rules, which they established: 1. That each tenant should have the fields of his farm contiguous to each other, and be encouraged to inclose them: 2. That all burdensome services should be abolished: 3. That sheep should be excluded from the low grounds in winter: 4. That leases of due length should be granted: And, 5. That a proper rotation of crops should be prescribed.

In consequence of these rules being adopted in the last leases, each farmer now feels himself at liberty to cultivate his little possession, safe from the risk of interference or dispute with his neighbours, or from the hurt of being poached by their cattle. He has no service to perform to the proprietor, but the easy one, of driving 12 cwt. of coals from Perth to Atholl House for each ploughgate yearly. He has a lease, (extending to 19 or 21 years), which allows and encourages

* The Highlander labours under other general disadvantages in this respect. Having little intercourse with the low country, he has few opportunities of seeing the improved modes of culture practised there; and even when he does casually see them, his ignorance of the language of the improver prevents his gaining any minute or beneficial acquaintance with them.

courages him to apply all his skill and capital to the cultivation of his farm, from the confidence it gives him, that he will have an opportunity of enjoying the fruits of their application. In consequence of the last rule particularly, he has the produce of his white crops materially increased, and what he never had before the command of, winter and spring provender for his cattle.

The rotation of crops which theory might shew would be the most perfectly suited to the soil, cannot be reduced to practice from the smallness of the farms. But the best law of rotation has been given them which they are able to bear. It is stipulated as the leading regulation, that one-fifth part of each farm shall be always in clover and ryegrass, and another in summer fallow, or some green crop. The rest of the ground is left to white crops and flax.

The tenants were themselves astonished at the striking effect of the alteration in their mode of culture, and they became zealous to prosecute the advantages presented by their leases. Stones, brushwood, wet, and waste spots, which had existed for ages, to the reproach of the farmer, and the loss of the public, began to disappear; and it is not now to be doubted, that a few years will see them completely swept from the face of the country. A greater stretch of improvement has taken place during the last 15 years, than during a century preceding.

The light sandy soil of the haughs bears plentiful crops of turnip. Potatoes yield in general 30 bolls *per* acre, and oats, which yielded formerly not more than 4 bolls, yield now 8. Barley may be estimated at nearly the same rate of produce. From a peck of flax-seed sown, there are, on an average, 3 stones (Dutch weight) of dressed flax. Each tenant of a half ploughgate sows 8 pecks of flax-seed yearly. They begin now to keep their own seed for sowing, and find

find it little, if at all, inferior to that which is imported. Their crop of it is always best after grass.

No great proportion of the oats and barley raised in the parish are sold. The rents are paid almost exclusively from the price of the yarn spun by the women during winter*.

When the farmer is not employed in the culture of his crop, he is employed through a great part of the summer in providing fuel. After the sowing of his barley is finished, which happens generally in the beginning of June, he goes to the moss, with the whole men, women, children, and horses, of the farm; nor is it before the middle or end of July that he is able, (though the time depends much on the nature of the season, as favourable or unfavourable to the drying of the peats), to prepare and lead home a sufficient quantity. Their mosses are not at a great distance, and the roads to them are tolerably good, yet still this is found a laborious, inconvenient, and, after all, a very precarious way of obtaining fuel. It seems probable that the farmers will soon see it for their advantage to drive coals from Perth, for a part, if not the whole, of the fuel they require†.

When

* In spinning, the women are very industrious and expert. Many of them use a wheel with two flyers; on one of this construction they will spin about a third more than on one with a single flyer only. A spindle of yarn, of the rate of 2 hanks from the lb. costs 1 s. 3 d. for the spinning; and if at the rate of 6 hanks from the lb. it costs 2 s. In the one case, a woman spins 8 hier a day, and in the other only 4.

† In wet seasons the farmers are unable to procure a due supply for their own family consumption. This failure is felt in Dunkeld as well as here; for the poor there rely, in some measure, for fuel in the winter on the peats which are occasionally for sale from the farmer's surplus stock; and when peats are scarce, they find coals too extravagantly high-priced for their slender finances. It would be of great benefit to the poor of Dunkeld, if a society were formed for purchasing coals in summer, when they are at the lowest price in Perth, and for laying them up, and selling them at the original cost in winter. This would be great charity at small expence.

When the peats of the year are stored up, the hay-harvest begins. By the middle of August, or earlier, the flax is ready to be pulled, and the ripling, watering, and preparing it for the mill, occupies all hands till the 15th or 20th of September, when the barley is ripe for cutting. The labours of reaping and housing their crops now commence, and they proceed till they are closed by the raising of the potatoes, in the end of October or beginning of November. From this time, till they begin to rib the ground for their barley crop in spring, the men have no severer employment than thrashing for daily use the scanty quantity of straw which the cattle require, and for carrying to them what other provender their improved cultivation has enabled them to preserve for that season.

Excepting the barony of Dalcapon, all the lands in the parish are thirled to the mill of Dowally. The multure paid is 6 lippies of sheeling for the boll, and 1 lippie besides to the miller.

OAK WOODS.

The computed extent of the oak woods has been already stated. The Duke of Atholl causes his woods to be cut every 25th year only. Other neighbouring proprietors cut theirs every 20th year. The value of oak woods has increased of late very rapidly. In this parish there is a remarkable instance of this. The wood of Gauy, at 3 successive sales, within a period of 50 years, reckoning from the date of the first to the date of the last sale, was disposed of by roup at the following prices: 1st Sale, L. 166; 2d Sale, L. 551; and 3d Sale, L. 1262. In some cases, the price has been equal to L. 54 *per* acre; but the average price *per* acre may be rated at L. 40. This affords a high rent for the ground, even for every year during which it

has been unproductive. At the last sale of Gaury, this rent was not less than L. 2, 10 s. *per* acre.

The cutting of oak woods begins about the middle of May, and is finished by the middle of July. Old trees are peeled before they are cut down, to prevent the loss of bark, which might otherwise happen in the act of cutting. Men employed in peeling have 1 s. a-day, and women 7 d. The bark in this neighbourhood, after supplying the tan-yards in Dunkeld, is sold to Perth, Forfar, and Dundee. It sells so high as 1 s. 3 d. a stone*.

RIVER AND LOCH.

The rent of the salmon-fishing in the Tay, opposite to this parish, may be rated at L. 27 Sterling. The salmon caught here are sold to Perth, and from thence are sent to the London market. The following are the prices paid, of late years, for them *per* lb. viz. early in spring, 8 d.; in April, 6 d.; in May, 4 d.; and during the remainder of the season, 3 d. The average weight of a Tay salmon here is 18 lb. Dutch weight. One, however, was caught which weighed 63 lb. 3 oz.

Some years ago, *mussels* were gathered in the bed of the river in considerable numbers, for the sake of the pearls they contained. Crowds of people were seen daily wandering in search of them. But a London dealer, who had purchased the pearls, becoming bankrupt, with the price in his hands, the spirit of this traffic was damped, and has not again revived. Several pearls then found were sold for 10 s. 6 d. and one brought 13 s.

Loch Ordie abounds with trout and eel. It is a favourite resort of anglers from Dunkeld, who have often agreeable reason to remember the amusement which its banks afford.

PRICE

* Bark, after it was thrown from the tan-pits in Dunkeld, was for some time employed as a manure, but was found not to suit the soil here. It is now used by the poor as fuel.

PRICE OF WAGES AND PRODUCE.

The price of butchers meat, and other articles of provision, may be reckoned at the same rates here as in Dunkeld, it being the only market for them to which the parishioners can go. Of grain, the prices *per boll* are, for barley, 15 s.; for oats and for pease, 14 s.; for meal, 15 s. Wool is sold at different rates, from 6 s. to L. 1 *per stone*; peats at 1 s. 3 d. *per cart*. Of wages, the rate is for a man-servant from L. 8 to L. 10 *per annum*; and of a woman, from L. 3 to L. 4; of a mason, 1 s. 6 d. a-day; of a tailor, 6 d. with his meat; of a man during harvest, 1 s.; and of a woman at that time, 6 d. both with their meat.

PROGRESS OF MANNERS, &c.

In 1778, there were not 4 houses in the parish where tea was used; now, (in 1798) it is used in every house. Then, there was not a hat worn by any of the tenants, or their servants; now, there are many. Then, there was not one black cap; now, all the women wear them. Then, the gowns of the women were camblet, and their aprons woollen; now, the gowns are of printed linen, and the aprons of white muslin. Then, many of the men wore the philibeg; now, there are none who do so. Then, all of them had tartan hose; now, all have stockings. Then, in short, the whole articles of the dress of the people were home-made, excepting their bonnets, and a few shoes; now, they are all bought from the merchants of Dunkeld.

GENERAL REMARKS.

It may be thought that the size of the farms in this parish might be enlarged with advantage to the proprietor; for that fewer, both of men and horses than are at present employed, would be equal to the cultivation of the soil, and that

that a reduction of their number would permit a greater quantity of rude produce to go to market, and by consequence a higher rent to be paid. But there is a mistake in this thought. The present rent is paid, not from the sale of rude produce, but from the sale of a part of that produce, manufactured by household labour. If the size of the farms was enlarged, there is no doubt that from the consequent depopulation, an increased quantity of rude produce would be sent to market, but then the quantity of manufacturing household labour would, from the same cause, be diminished. Now, it is apprehended, that the gain from the former circumstance would not do more (if it did so much) than compensate the loss sustained by the latter. For the manufacturing labour, it will be found, adds so great an increase of value to the rude produce, as will not only support the expence of the greater number of individuals who exert it, but also the want of the price of that increased quantity of produce which would be raised by their removal. In the present state of things, therefore, no material rise of rent could be expected by the proprietor, from the enlargement of the size of farms in this parish.

As to the Highlands in general, for it does not respect Dowally, the public, as well as the proprietors, would derive signal advantage, not so much from the enlargement of old farms, as from the formation of new ones. Immense tracts of ground in some districts, and small patches in others, may be found, which never felt the impression of either the spade or the plough. Every where let these be cultivated. Perhaps the plan which would secure this cultivation of these waste grounds most speedily and universally, would be for proprietors to offer portions of them, of a proper extent, in lease, free of rent for some years, and afterwards

terwards at a rent gradually rising, to such as would engage to cultivate them according to prescribed regulations. Were the lease made of considerable length, and transferable by the tenant, after he had improved the ground, on his taking a new lot, the plan would not fail to be eagerly embraced; and if it were so, great and manifold benefits would result; emigration would be prevented; the populousness of the Highlands would increase; the value of estates would be raised, (and this not merely in proportion to the increased value of waste ground made arable, but in proportion to the increased value which pasture grounds would receive, from the additional winter food for cattle, which would be obtained); a greater quantity of subsistence would thus, too, be produced for the community*.

HINTS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN AGRICULTURE.

The stipulations mentioned formerly as inserted in the leases, are all judicious; it would be beneficial to add the following: 1. That a specified extent of ground should be well inclosed, and regularly and carefully cultivated as a kitchen-garden. In this the tenant could make, on a small scale, experiments, to be afterwards, if successful, applied to his fields. The produce of it would greatly improve the diet of the people. 2. That no straw should be employed

* Under this article, respecting improvements in agriculture, it ought to be mentioned, that the Duke of Atholl has instituted on his estate ploughing matches, where premiums in money, or medals which were struck for the purpose, with appropriate emblems and inscriptions, are bestowed on the successful competitors. This is the beginning, merely, of an extensive scheme which his Grace has formed, for encouraging similar competitions of skill and industry in all the branches of agricultural occupations, both in the house and the field.

in thatching houses. Thatching with it wastes the supply of provender which they have for their cattle. Flax is a more durable material for this purpose, when properly applied to the roof, and ultimately less expensive. The Statistical Account of Kilmarnock, published in this work, contains some useful information on this point. 3. The trifling service to which the tenants are bound, and the casualties they pay in kind, should, at their option, be commutable into money. The proposal for this commutation proceeds on a principle which ought never to be forgotten or departed from, viz. that every tenant should possess the constant and the unfettered command of his time, labour, and stock.

The distinction of outfield and infield should be abolished. The following plan promises to effect this abolition speedily, and not only without loss during the time of executing it, but with great gain afterwards. Let the infield be employed solely in raising green horse-hoed crops, and let the manures made on the farm, or purchased, be applied to the outfield. On the latter, as it is in general overrun with annual weeds, and in bad tilth, the farmer should begin his train of culture by summer fallowing. This summer-fallow he should lime. Then, in succeeding years, let him adopt this course of crops: 1. Oats; 2. Pease, or potatoes, or turnip, which must be horse-hoed; 3. Barley and grass seeds; 4. Hay; 5. (And if possible 6.), Pasture. In this course there is no expensive outlay, and the loss of one crop, on such proportion as in any one year may be fallowed, will be amply compensated by the meliorating influence the fallow produces, not on the first crop only which succeeds it, but on several crops to come. A Swedish gentleman, of great agricultural experience and skill, told the compiler of this paper, that after many trials respecting the most beneficial

ficial mode of cropping his grounds, he had resorted to the practice of fallowing his fields every second year. This practice, he added, not only had enabled him to subdue the tendency of the ground to be covered with annual weeds, (a tendency which, in Sweden, is peculiarly strong), but gives him, at an average, a better return from the one crop which he takes, than any of his neighbours have, on equally good soil, in their two crops without fallow.

Change of seed could not fail to be highly beneficial as an improvement in the farming of Dowally. In the change of seed, the farmer should attend particularly to this consideration, that that new seed will thrive best with him, which he gets from a climate and soil opposite in nature to his own.

As soon as his white crops are removed from the fields to the barn-yard, he ought to begin to plough them. By this plan he will find the labours of the spring made more easy, and the ground will be reduced to a finer tilth, and at the same time fertilized by the effects of the winter's frosts. Often, in the Highlands, the ground receives but one furrow, after lying unploughed till March or April. This happens even if the ground is lee. Where this is the practice, no one need be surprised to see it in bad tilth, prolific of weeds, and yielding a more abundant crop of grass than of the grain that happens to be sown on it. In very steep grounds, indeed, autumnal tillage should not be attempted, as the violent winter rains would wash off the soil. In every other case, it will not fail to be beneficial, and to increase the quantity of produce.

The time of sowing the different grains ought to be more early in the season than it is at present. Able agriculturists are of opinion, that little hazard would attend oats or barley, even if they were sown in autumn. They
are

are thought to be sufficiently hardy to withstand the severities of the winter. But whatever solidity may be in this opinion, (which might and ought to undergo the test of experiment), it seems certain, that they would be safe if sown in February, or early in March. If they were sown at that early period of the spring, one great advantage would result, they would ripen at an earlier period of autumn, and thus the inconveniences and losses of a late harvest would be avoided. Besides, long and general experience has proved, that the grain of a crop which has been early sown and early ripened, is better than that of a crop which in both these respects has been later.

The Blainlie oats, the Friesland, which ripens 3 weeks earlier than the Blainlie, but is shaken more easily, and the Tartarian, which, though rather later than the other two, is more prolific than either, and resists the most shaking winds; these oats ought to be preferred to all other for seed in this climate and soil.

Four rowed barley, and the 6 rowed where it can be procured, are superior to the double-rowed, for Dowally; and winter rye should be sown in place of spring rye. The former yields the richest crop, the grain is better, and the straw stronger.

Wheat should not be attempted in this soil.

Vetches may be sown on a barley or oat-stubble, if the field can be prepared for them by the middle of September. They will afford a convenient supply of green provender, at a time when it is much needed, and if turnip follows them, the farmer, in the course of two years, will have from the field three crops.

Ruta бага, or Swedish turnip, ought to be introduced, as a most valuable plant. It thrives with the same culture as the common turnip. Being a biennial, it never flowers the first

first year. It is heavier, and the same quantity of consequence goes farther as food. It stands the severest frost without injury, and in February, March, and April, never fails to be in sound order for use. The foliage makes a good substitute for greens to the table, till the plant flowers in the second year, and even after it has shot, the root remains solid and palatable. Last winter (1797-8) the compiler of this paper pulled a number of these turnips, and left them exposed in the open air till the month of March, and found them perfectly uninjured. What were allowed to remain in the ground threw out a luxuriant foliage early, and the roots, even till the beginning of May, retained their firmness and taste.

Mangel-wurzel, or root of scarcity, promises also to be a useful green crop. It is a variety of the garden beet, but preferable to them as an article of food for cattle. Last season a quantity of the seed of this plant was sown in drills. In the middle of these, a single drill of red beet, and another of white beet, was planted, and it was evident that they and the mangel-wurzel were plants of the same class. The leaves of the latter were cut four times in the course of the season, and were most greedily devoured both by pigs and milch-cows. In autumn, the roots, though less than those of such as had not been cut at all, were still of considerable size. They do not stand a severe frost.

Red yams, which yield large crops in almost every soil, and in all climates, ought to be tried. If planted in April, they may be raised in October. Cattle eat them with such voracity, that it is not safe to give them a full feed of them at once. Cow-feeders, in Edinburgh, prefer them to almost every other food for their milch-cows.

Potatoes it is unnecessary to recommend. Their value is already fully felt. It may be hinted, however, that the practice

practice of raising them by lazy beds ought not to be employed, when they are to be planted on new or wild ground. The spade reclaims such ground better than the plough, and if the surface is rough with herbage, the expence of dung is saved.

Irrigation, or the watering of pasture and heath grounds, should be tried, wherever it is practicable. The operation is easy, not expensive, and will have certain success in improving grass and extirpating heath. The Dowally farmer sees proof of this success before him. On the east end of a little island, near Kilmorich, there is always a better and more luxuriant sward of grass than on any other part of it, and the obvious cause of the superiority is, that that end is occasionally overflowed by the Tay, which happens to form, from the situation of the place, when the river is high, a sheet of still water upon it. It is no objection to the plan in question, that the Tay and the Tumble often overflow part of the haughs near their banks, and instead of improving, desolate them, by depositing the gravel they have torn from the mountains. The plan does not recommend the employment of *torrents* for its purposes. It recommends the making water to stagnate, for a time, on level grounds, and to draw furrows along grounds that slope, in which the water may be led in very slender streams, and which it may be made to overflow at such points, and in such quantity, as, without breaking it, to irrigate or moisten the whole surface *.

As

* Much minute and useful information on this subject, is to be found in a pamphlet published at the desire of the Highland Society of Scotland, by Dr Smith of Campbelton. Every Highland farmer ought to purchase and peruse this pamphlet.

As the deficiency of artificial manures is one of the greatest disadvantages under which this parish labours, great pains should be taken to collect materials for making and increasing them. In no quarter of Scotland is due attention paid to this; it is not therefore to be expected in the Highlands. A proper situation should be chosen for the dung-hill, so as that the drainings may be collected into a reservoir, out of which they should be carefully, from time to time, thrown upon it. Putrid water from stagnant pools and ditches, and the weeds growing in them, should be mixed with peat-earth and lime, into a compost. If whins, heath, ragwort, thistles, docks, coarse grass, and all that multitude of useless and injurious weeds which are seen by every way-side, and along every hedge, are cut, and burnt in close fires, it will be found that the ashes of them are valuable for the same purpose. So is spent tanner's bark, decayed vegetables, soap-ley, and many other articles which, because each singly seems of a trifling moment, are neglected by the farmer, though the best effects would arise from the mass of manure which the whole, when carefully mixed, would form, in addition to what is customarily produced on the farm. *Ex minimis maxima.*

HINTS FOR IMPROVEMENT ON LIVE-STOCK.

The farms are in general overstocked with horses. Many of these might be disposed of, and oxen substituted, to the number necessary, in their stead. Oxen are fit for all the operations of a Dowally farm, would be less expensive to keep, and would not fall off in value during the years it might be proper to work them.

There

There is frequently a want of milk for the rearing of calves in spring. No substitute can be found so nutritive as this natural food to the young animal, but any substitute which will help to preserve the life of some who might without it be lost, or which will save milk to the family, when necessary for making butter or cheese, is valuable. Hay tea, or a strong decoction of hay, answers this purpose better than any other. In spring 1796, the compiler of this paper reared 10 calves; and in spring and summer 1797, he reared 21, chiefly by the use of hay-tea, with such a proportion of milk as could be spared from the produce of two cows, (which were all he had, and from which his family were supplied, at the same time, with cream and butter. To a calf of the largest Lothian breed, he generally began by giving from 3 to 4 pints a-day of milk, with as much hay-tea as it was disposed to take. This was continued for 8 days; for the next 8 days, the quantity of milk daily given with the hay-tea, was reduced to 2 pints; and for a third space of 8 days, to 1 pint, after which it received hay-tea only. To a calf of the Highland breed, a smaller proportion of both milk and hay-tea would be required. For the hay-tea, the proportion of ingredients was 5 lb. good hay to 6 pints of water. These were boiled, (for boiling is to be preferred to steeping it), till the decoction amounted to about 4 pints.

As the Duke of Atholl, by his new arrangements, stipulates that the sheep shall remain during winter in the hill, it will be necessary to improve the present breed, or to introduce a new one, stronger and more hardy. Perhaps the former is most advisable. The present stock is habituated to the climate and the pasture, and their size may be increased by a careful attention to select the best of them as breeders.

HINTS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF OAK WOODS.

The great body of the woods should be furrounded with a stone dyke, and no cattle ever permitted to enter them. This, at least, is a good general rule, and ought never to be departed from, except in cases where circumstances render the purchase of pasture, however expensive, absolutely necessary. All vacant spaces should be planted with woods suited to the soil. If this is done, and the stool of oak is of due closeness, the pasture in the wood must indeed be at least but insignificant.

Probably 20 years is nearly the best period at which to cut oak woods. When at that age, the stocks, on an average, are about 14 inches in diameter, and then they cease to send out young shoots. If the bark, therefore, is the principal ingredient in the value of the wood, a small increase only in its quantity is to be expected after this, and permitting the trees to stand longer, cannot be considered as profitable.

MISCELLANEOUS FACTS.

The Gaelic language is spoken universally in this parish, though all the people, at the same time, understand more or less perfectly the English. It is a curious fact, that the hills of King's Seat and Craigy Barns, which form the lower boundary of Dowally, have been for centuries the separating barrier of these languages. In the first house below them, the English is, and has been spoken; and the Gaelic in the first house, (not above a mile distant), above them.

The valued rent of the parish is L. 1390 : 2 : 2. The real rent may amount to about L. 500. As the farms are of small size, not exceeding from L. 5 to L. 15 each of rent,
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the tenants are very numerous. But it is equally honourable to them and to their landlord, that for a long tract of years there have been no arrears on the day of payment.

In a sand bank, by the side of the river, some particles of gold-dust have been discovered. A few small trinkets were made of it; but the quantity of gold is so small, and the expence of extracting so great, that no attention is paid to the discovery.

Near the village of Dowally, there are three large stones standing, which appear to be the remains of a Druidical circle. There are no other antiquities in the parish.

There is at present here a girl who was born deaf, and is dumb. One cannot look at her without being surprised, by that extent of knowledge she seems to have acquired, and without lamenting, at the same time, that public benevolence has not yet, amid all its works of charity, erected a seminary, where the poor of that unfortunate class of our fellow creatures to which she belongs, may receive the blessings of instruction. She is at present supported by the charity of an excellent and respectable inhabitant of the parish, to whom the helpless and the miserable never applied in vain.

CHARACTER OF THE PEOPLE.

The people are hardy, laborious, temperate, and sensible. They are regular and devout in their attendance on the ordinances of religion; cheerful in their intercourse with each other; and humane to the needy.

In a letter from the Reverend Mr Niven of Dunkeld, it is said, "I have this day (17th May 1798) remitted above
" L. 100 Sterling to the Bank, as a voluntary contribution
" from Dunkeld and Dowally for the support of Govern-
" ment. I think," he adds with a natural and an affectionate
pride,

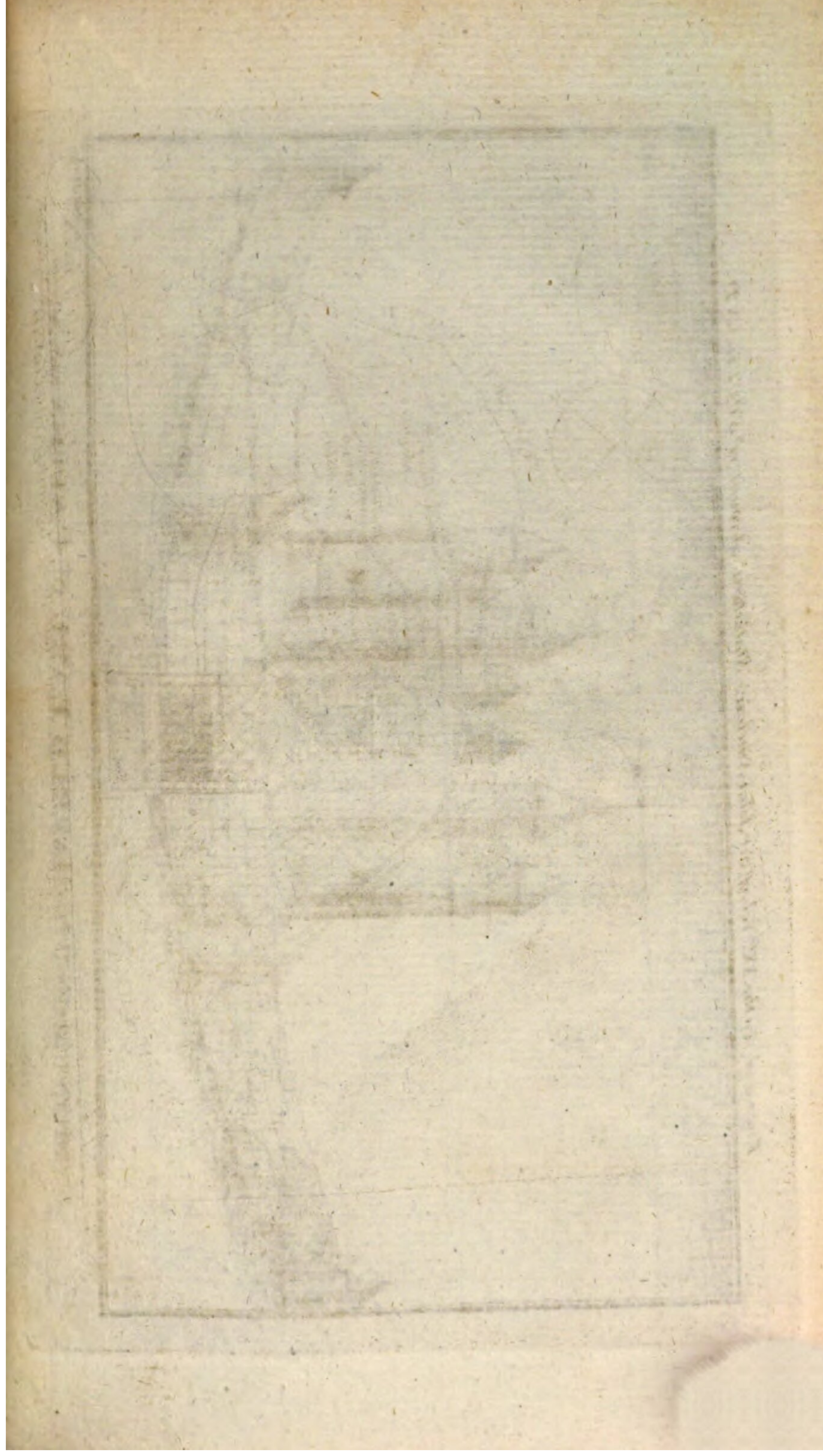
pride, in the spirit of his people, "I think it is well, "when it is considered, that there is not a proprietor of "land among the subscribers."

It is a pleasing circumstance to the compiler of the Statistical Account of these parishes, to conclude it by recording, in these times of national alarm and hazard, this memorial of their loyalty and patriotism.

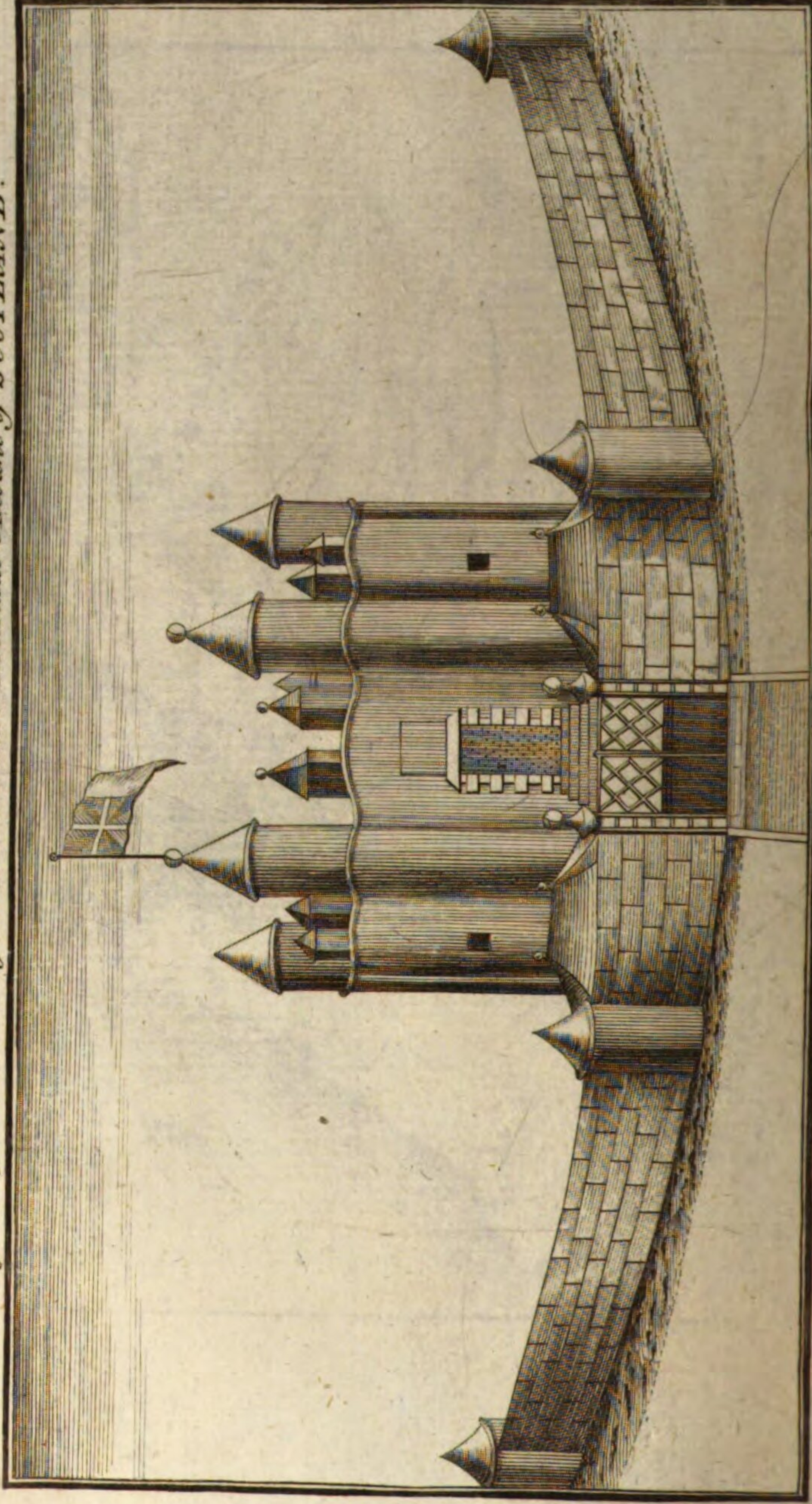
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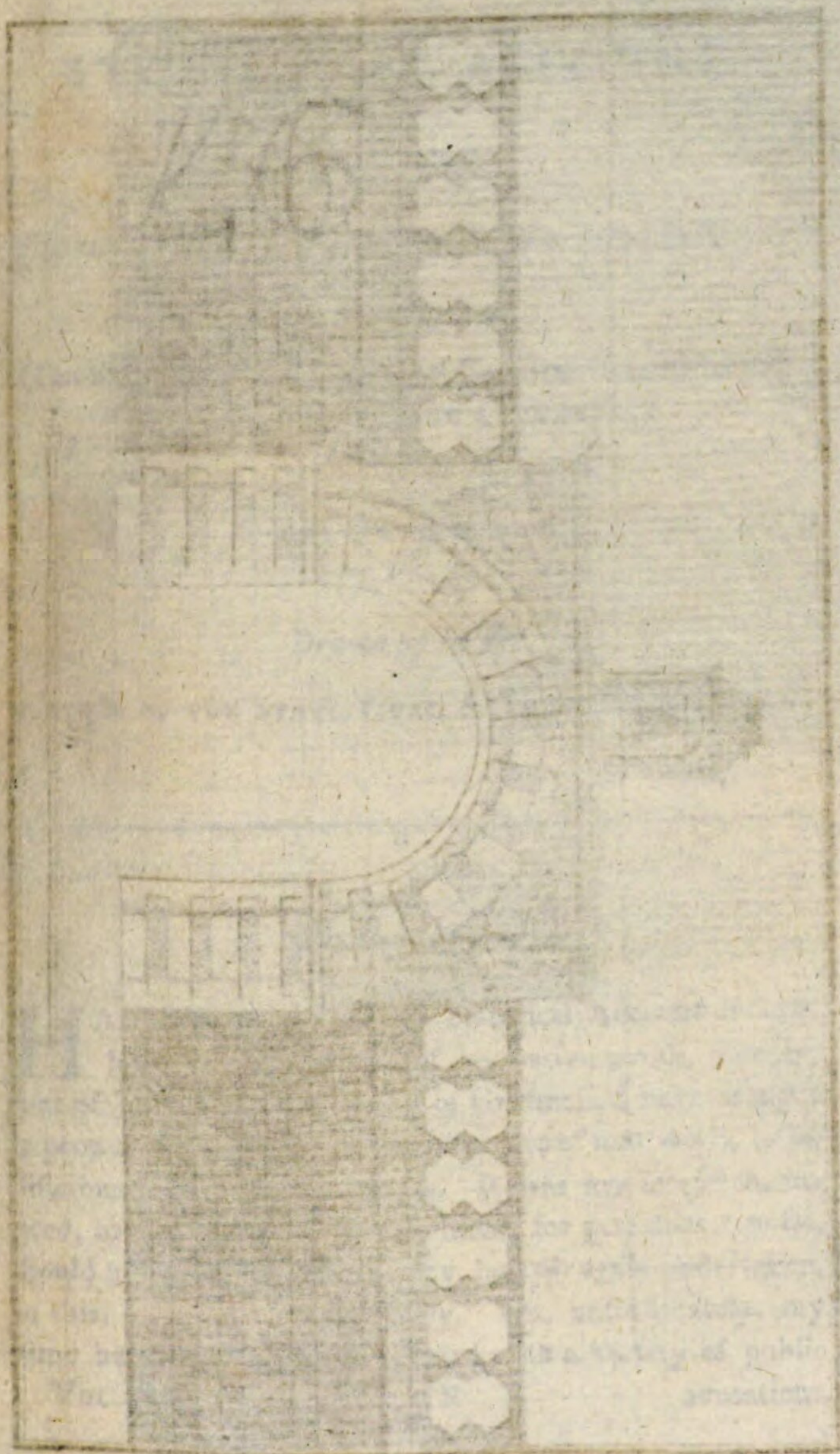


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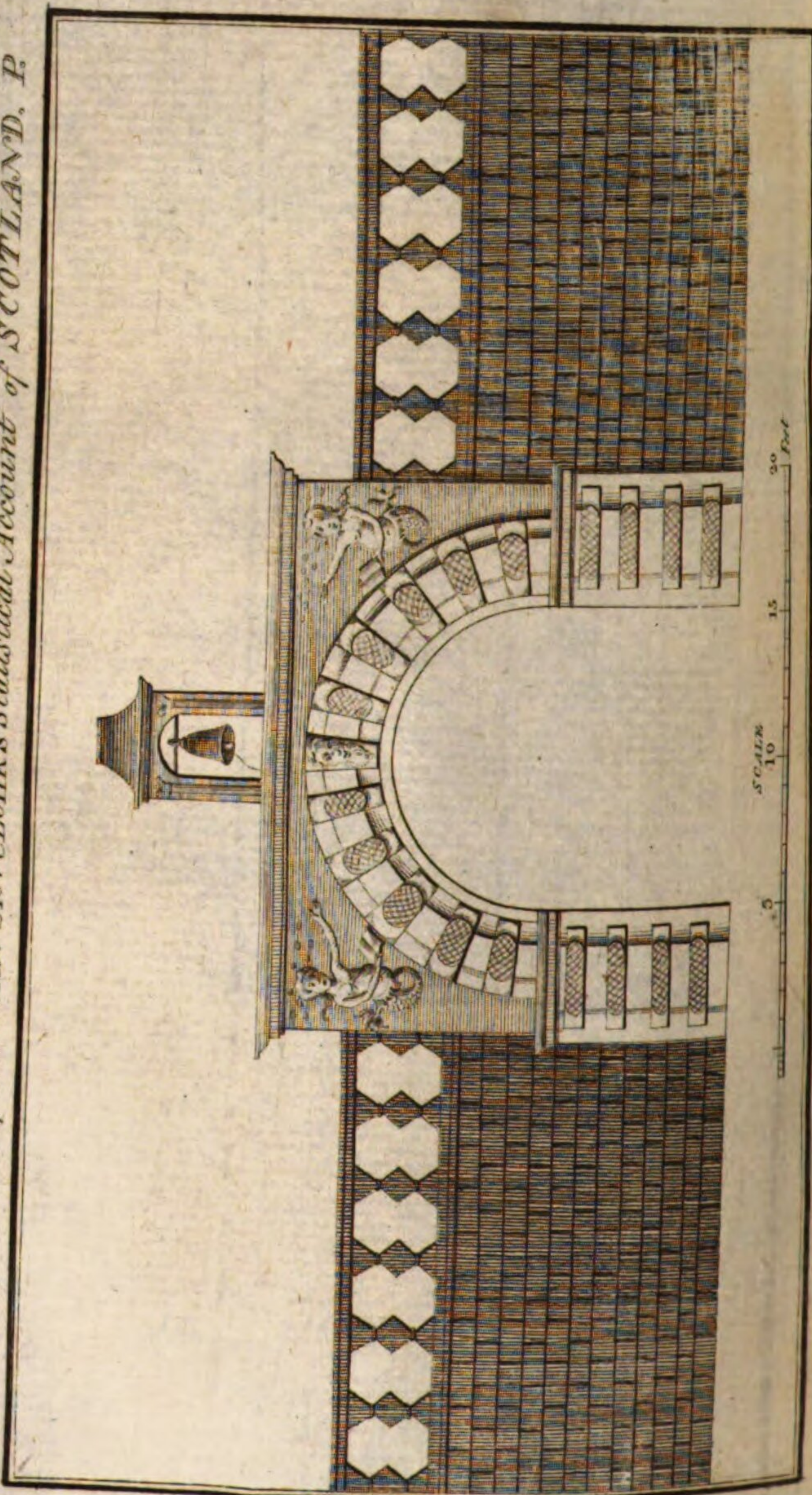
Gavin Sculp.

MONUMENT OF HAROLD EARL OF CATNESS.



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Engraved for the XXth Vol. of SIR JOHN SINCLAIR'S Statistical Account of SCOTLAND. P.



Outside View of the West Gate of Thurso Castle. Engr. by J. G. Smith.

STATISTICAL ACCOUNT
OF THE
TOWN AND PARISH OF THURSO,
 (COUNTY AND PRESBYTERY OF CAITHNESS, AND SYNOD
 OF SUTHERLAND AND CAITHNESS.)

Drawn up by the

AUTHOR OF THE STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF SCOTLAND.

INTRODUCTION.

HAVING concluded the Statistical Account of Scotland, with the history of my native parish, namely, that of Thurso, in the county of Caithness, I have thought it proper to throw off some extra copies of that work, to be distributed among my friends. It was my intention, indeed, to have drawn it up as a model for parochial reports, should a general statistical survey, be ever again undertaken, in this, or in any other country. But, unfortunately, my time has been so much occupied with a variety of public

avocations, that it has not been in my power, notwithstanding the valuable assistance of Major Rose, of the Thurso Volunteers, of Mr Nicolson, the minister, of Dr John Williamson, and of several other gentlemen, to collect all the materials necessary for so extensive a work. The reader, however, will easily perceive, from the following sketch, what I consider to be the best plan of arrangement, for the statistical account of any parish, more especially where a town and a country district are united.

CHAP. I. PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS.

SECT. I. *Origin of the Name.*—To trace the origin of the names, by which particular places are distinguished, is undoubtedly more a matter of curiosity, than of real use. At the same time, as such inquiries tend to throw light on the former state, and the ancient history of a country, and at any rate, yield a pleasing and innocent source of literary amusement, they ought not to be neglected, in the statistical account of a district; and indeed no country of the same extent, furnishes a more curious field of investigation, in this respect, than *Scotland*, in consequence of the variety of languages, from which the names of places have been derived; a coloured map explanatory of which, would give, at one glance, some idea of the great diversity which prevails in this part of the island. Many of the names are undoubtedly modern English; but in the southern part of Dumfries-shire, and on the coast of the Lothians, they are principally derived from the old Saxon. Through the greater part of the rest
of

of Scotland, they are of Celtic extraction; but along the sea-coast of Caithness, and throughout all the northern and many of the western islands, they are evidently Danish, Norwegian, or Icelandic, different dialects of the same tongue, which was spoken by a variety of tribes or nations, who, in ancient times, disturbed by their predatory attacks, and afterwards held in their possession, all that part of Scotland.

The derivation of Thurso, or more properly *Thorsua*, as it is spelt by the Icelandic historians, is easily ascertained. In that language, *aa* signifies *a great river*, and it was in this parish, that the principal river in the neighbourhood, to which they had prefixed the name of their great deity *Thor*, flowed into the sea. From the river, the same name extended itself to the town, which was built at its mouth, to the neighbouring bay, and to the surrounding district. In the Gaelic, the town is called *Iner*, or *Inver Thurso*, from its being situated at the mouth of the river.

SECT. II. *Situation and Extent.*—The town of Thurso is situated, on the north-west side of the coast of Caithness, at the top of a spacious and beautiful bay, where the river Thurso runs into it. The figure of the parish is irregular, as will appear from the annexed map. The great body of the parish is bounded by the parish of Olrig, on the south-east; by Halkirk, on the south, and south-west; by the ocean, to the north, and east; and by the parish of Reay, on the west. There is also a separate district, called Doray, which, though at a considerable distance from Thurso, forms a part of the parish. The shape of the great body of the parish will appear from the annexed map.

SECT. III. *Scenery in the neighbourhood.*—The scenery round Thurso is truly grand and picturesque. On one side,

a spacious bay, formed, on the east, by the bold and lofty promontory called Dunnet-Head; and on the west, by Holburn-Head; both which cover the bay from the tremendous waves of the Pentland Frith. These, with storms of wind from the west, or from the north, beat with dreadful violence against those head-lands, and present an awful prospect to the eye. On the opposite side of Pentland Frith, in view of Thurso, at the distance of eight leagues, the Hoy Hills in Orkney, rising gradually from the summit of a range of rocks, of tremendous height, which overhang the sea, rear their majestic heads, and contribute greatly to the grandeur of the prospect.

At the bottom of this beautiful bay, where the river Thurso falls into the sea, the town stands. Between the town and Holburn-Head, in the western side of the bay, is the anchoring ground, known by the name of Scrabster-Road, which is skirted by a beautiful green bank, in form of a crescent, extending from the town to the extremity of the point of Holburn-Head. The country to the west, south, and east of the town, rises, by a gentle acclivity, to the extent of some miles; and the intermediate space presents a rich prospect of well cultivated fields and pleasant villas. Thurso East, anciently called Thurso Castle, once the residence of the Earls of Caithness, now the seat of Sir John Sinclair of Ulbster, Baronet, stands on the eastern side of the river, nearly opposite to the town, which, with the improvements, which are extensive, and Harold's Tower, standing at the north-east extremity, gives a pleasant variety to the scene.

SECT. IV. *Sea-Coast*.—The coast, in general, throughout the parish, is rocky; but Thurso Bay, towards Scrabster, is sandy. Near Scrabster, below flood-mark, there is abundance of freestone of excellent quality. The rocky part of the coast is whinstone, which, in many parts, may
be

be raised in blocks of any dimensions, and so regular in shape, that when used in building, they resemble ailer work of freestone.

SECT. V. *Climate*.—The air, for about eight months of the year, is keen and piercing, but pure and healthy. The summer months are pleasant, and in June, there is scarcely any darkness, the reflection of the sun in the Atlantic, being visible for the short period he drops below the horizon. Even at midnight, one with tolerable sight, may read without candle-light. The weather in general is dry, unless when the wind blows from the east, or the south-west, which frequently brings rain. No regular table of the weather has, unfortunately, been kept in the neighbourhood.

CHAP. II. HISTORY AND STATE OF THE TOWN.

SECT. I. *Origin and ancient History*.—The ancient history of the town of Thurso, cannot now be traced with any degree of certainty; but it appears from the Icelandic authors, who are amongst the most ancient, and the most authentic, of the northern historians, that it was a place of very considerable trade and consequence many centuries ago; though, from its being so much exposed to the depredations of the Norwegian and Danish pirates, it must have often suffered from their attacks. There is reason indeed to believe, that the commerce of the county of Caithness in general, and of Thurso in particular, was formerly of much greater importance than at present. It appears from Skene's Account of the Assize of David King of Scotland, that the common and equal *pondus Catbania*, or the weight of Caithness, was ordered to be observed in buying or selling over all Scotland, which could not have been the case, had

not

not Caithness, in old times, been distinguished for the extent of its commercial transactions, of which Thurso was probably the centre. Its happy situation, indeed, at the mouth of a large river, distinguished for its valuable salmon-fishery, with a natural harbour for small vessels, and surrounded by a fertile country, must have rendered it, as soon as the province in which it was situated came to be well inhabited, a place of considerable moment.

SECT. II. *Modern History.*—Thurso was never erected into a royal borough, nor even into a borough of barony, so far as it can now be traced, until a royal charter was granted for that purpose, in the year 1633, by “which it “was entitled to all the privileges, immunities, and jurisdiction, belonging to a free borough of barony in “Scotland.” No particular event, connected with the history of this town, deserves to be commemorated, with the exception, perhaps, of one or two incidents which are narrated in the succeeding section.

SECT. III. *Remarkable Occurrences.*—There are few remarkable occurrences handed down by tradition. In the reign of Charles I. the Earl of Montrose visited Thurso, having landed in Orkney, and the house where he lodged, now a ruin, is still pointed out.

In the spring of 1746, soon before the battle of Culloden was fought, a party of the rebel Highlanders, under the command of Lord Macleod, marched into Caithness, in the hopes of acquiring some addition to their force. But the gentlemen of property, nobly resolved to preserve their loyalty to the reigning Monarch, and, except a part of the land-tax, which the rebels compelled the landholders to pay to them, they gained nothing by coming to Caithness. For this, too, they paid dearly on their return; for being at-
tacked

tacked near Dunrobin Castle, when the men and officers were separated, at crossing a ferry near that place, most of the latter were obliged to surrender themselves prisoners of war.

SECT. IV. *Public Buildings.*—The church is the only public building in the town. It is built in the Gothic style, in the form of a cross, and though not large, it is a substantial and commodious building. In the south aisle, is the burying-place of the family of Sinclair of Murkle. The north aisle belongs to the town exclusively. The rest is possessed by the country heritors and their tenants, but very unequally indeed, and a division of the church is very much wanted.

SECT. V. *Private Houses.*—The number of private inhabited houses in Thurso, is from 320 to 350; and of these, above 20 houses have been built within the last 5 years, some of them rather in a style of elegance for a country town. But it is to be regretted, that though the town appears to have been originally designed on a regular plan, yet it was early departed from, and the houses, for the most part, are placed in the most confused manner. Sir John Sinclair, however, now proposes to feu off a tract of ground on the south side of the town, which will give ample scope to the inhabitants to extend the town, and must prove an ornament to the place, as the feuars, in the new town, are to be restricted to build according to a fixed plan. The proposed situation is remarkably pleasant, extending along the banks of the river, which at stream-tides is navigable for vessels of 50 or 60 tons burdens, the full length of the ground appropriated for building. Of course, the new town will possess every advantage for trade which the old town enjoys, while, at the same time, it will be less exposed to encroachment from the sea.

CHAP. III. CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT.

SECT. I. *Constitution of the Town.*—The town holds of Sir John Sinclair as immediate superior. It was originally erected into a borough of barony by King Charles I. in the year 1633, by a charter granted in favour of John, Master of Berrydale, “ Giving, granting, and disponing to the borough, all and fundry privileges, immunities, and jurisdictions, belonging to a free borough of barony ; with full power to the said John, Master of Berrydale, and his heirs, &c. to appoint and create bailies, counsellors, and other officers needful, within the said borough, for the ruling and governing thereof ; and ficklelike, with the power of holding weekly markets in the said borough on Saturday ; with five free fairs yearly, viz. the first on the feast of the Blessed Virgin, commonly called our Lady’s Day, on the 25th day ; and the next on the feast of St Peter’s, commonly called St Peter’s Day, on the 29th of June ; the third on the feast of St Michael, commonly St Michael’s Day, on the 29th of September ; and the fourth on the feast of _____ commonly called St _____ Day, on the _____ day of _____ Each of the said fairs to continue and endure for the space of three days ; and to collect, exact, and intromit with, and uplift the customs of the same, and to apply the same to their own uses,” &c.

The weekly markets are held on Friday, instead of Saturday, the day appointed by the charter of erection ; and of the stated yearly fairs, that on St Peter’s Day is the only one which is kept ; but the want of the other three is fully compensated, by a great fair called the Marymas Market, which begins about the latter end of August, and continues for ten days. Merchants, shopkeepers, and chapmen, from various

various parts of Scotland, resort to this fair, with goods to a large amount. It is also a market for horses, butter, cheese, linen-cloth, and yarn, and other commodities of the growth, produce, and manufacture, of the country. But, of late years, since the merchants in the town have extended their trade, and enlarged their shops, and increased the number of articles they deal in, this market has not been so much frequented by strangers as formerly.

SECT. II. *Corporation and Magistrates*.—The town was formerly governed by three bailies, and twelve counsellors, appointed by the superior; but, for many years past, the magistracy has been confined to two bailies and twelve counsellors. These are not elected annually, but continue in office during the superior's pleasure. Perhaps it were better, that the magistrates were annually nominated by the superior, from a list presented to him by the burghesses and inhabitants; at any rate, in terms of the charter, the number of bailies ought to be increased to three.

SECT. III. *Armorial Bearings*.—There are none extant; but there is a town's seal, which is a St Andrew with his cross.

SECT. IV. *Taxes and Revenues*.—The town is valued in the cess-books of the county, at L. 666 : 13 : 4 Scotch money; and the feuars pay a proportional part of the land-tax, corresponding to that valuation. They also pay certain feu-duties to the superior, chiefly in tallow. These, with the public taxes, are all that the inhabitants are subjected to. As a corporation, the town has no revenue. The customs of the public markets and fairs, are let for a small yearly rent, which belongs to the superior.

CHAP. IV. POPULATION:

SECT. I. *Former State of Population.*—There is an account of this parish, in Macfarlane's manuscript Geographical Collections, preserved in the Advocates Library, in which the number of examinable persons, in the town of Thurso, is stated at about 900; and in the whole parish at 2200. The return to Dr Webster, in 1755, was 2963 souls. As the inhabitants now amount to 3146 persons, there is consequently an increase of 183 in the whole district. That increase, however, has taken place entirely in the town, the population of the country part, by an augmentation of the size of farms, without which no improvement could have taken place, having considerably diminished.

SECT. II. *Present State of Population.*—The present state of the population of this district, will appear from the annexed Statistical Table. It is satisfactory to add, that the population of the town, has not only increased of late, but is likely to be rapidly augmented. This can hardly fail to be the case, in a place so happily situated, and where encouragement is given to the extension of its commerce and manufactures, and to every species of improvement.

SECT. III. *Diseases.*—This district is not afflicted with any peculiar distempers, by which its population can be affected. The principal, undoubtedly, is the small-pox, which, chiefly affecting those, who are in an early stage of life, destroys the very source whence additional numbers may be expected. The following observations upon that subject, and on other diseases to which they are liable in this neighbourhood, drawn up by Mr John Williamson, surgeon to the

the 2d Battalion of the Rothsay and Caithness Fencibles, merit particular attention.

"In December 1796, the confluent small-pox became highly epidemic and fatal in this county; in Thurso more particularly, the epidemic was almost general, and, by my calculation, one in four fell a victim."

"Both in this town, and in the county, the mortality became so general and alarming, that I considered the suggesting a plan of general inoculation, a duty incumbent on me, as a practitioner in the place: in this I had to encounter many difficulties, as the peasantry held a religious prejudice against inoculation, and the prevalence of the natural small-pox, presented another objection not readily overcome."

"In order effectually to overcome the unfortunate prejudice, that inoculation for the small-pox was a provocation to Divine Providence, the clergy frequently inculcated in public, that, on the contrary, it is a kind interposition of Providence, to mitigate the ravages of a most fatal disease."

"In order to remove the general idea, that the epidemic then prevailing, and the inoculation might co-operate, and be conjunctly received into the system, and thus produce a doubly inveterate affection, I observed, that from the nature of the small-pox, the one affection being received, prevented the influence of any other being communicated to the system."

"After much difficulty, when with the assistance of the clergy, I had overcome any unfortunate religious prejudice, I recommended their collecting the inhabitants of a district to one place, and thus in one day, seldom less than 20 were inoculated. Indeed, when not prevented by particular business, I have arrived at the number of 120 in a single day."

"In the course of so general an inoculation, the dangerous epidemic then prevailing, induced me to perform, on many patients, then in habits of body very unfavourable; however,

in the situation of the county, it was less hazardous than the epidemic."

"The county practice here is most fatiguing to a medical practitioner; the roads are bad, and, considering the extent of the county, it is thinly inhabited; attendance, however, on my young patients became the more necessary, as the hot temperature, and such internal phlogistics, as pure whisky, is generally adopted."

"By an accurate journal, from October 1796, to July 1797, my numbers amounted to 645."

"Under the disadvantages I laboured, of the numbers inoculated, bad roads, a propensity to the opposite treatment I inculcated, inoculating children of improper habits, from fear of the fatal epidemic, it is surprising that but two children, whom I had a strong reluctance to inoculate, were the only victims."

"It is singular, that notwithstanding the general inoculation in every other parish, none, unless gentlemens children, were at that time inoculated in the parish of Latheron."

"Deducting the parish of Latheron, the population of Caithness does not exceed 21,000 souls. I am inclined therefore to believe, that there has not been so general an inoculation in Scotland, during so short a period as eight months."

"I am well satisfied, from attentive observation to practice, that any season is suited to a favourable event of inoculation. The warmth of summer is urged as a material objection to inoculation at that season. I am fearful, that the refrigerant plan is very generally carried so far, as in many cases to be productive of bad effects; and I have no doubt, that the temperature of our patient's room, may be reduced to the cool degree, needed at any season."

"In the West Indies they rarely have the choice of season, as inoculation is seldom practised; but when a vessel has appeared, with the disease on board, then a general inoculation takes

takes place in the island, and successfully, at whatever season."

"While the alarming epidemic raged, several gentlemen's children were inoculated, by their particular desire, about five days after birth. Having been taught to consider inoculation, at that period, hazardous, for reasons founded on theory, I was very reluctant to attempt the experiment; but from the many successful cases I have had at that age, I must conclude it a commendable practice in all healthy subjects; they are at that age free of any disease from teething, or its consequences, which very commonly adds severely to the critical symptoms of small-pox by inoculation."

"I am farther convinced, that early inoculation proves a more mild disease, from the following circumstance: A midwife, last winter, who attended persons under delivery who were my patients, had her own children under the natural small-pox, and to many young ones after birth, the contagion clearly appeared to be given by her; in every case the affection was favourable in the event."

"I have thus far continued to give my opinion, collected from practice, with the sole view of introducing the most favourable mode of inoculation, and to preserve, from so fatal a disease, many of a valuable race (the Highlanders of Scotland.)"

"Pursuing this view, which I flatter myself, in this country, I have successfully attained, I cannot consistently omit taking notice of a pamphlet which fell into my hands, addressed to the Clergy of Scotland, recommending general, but domestic, inoculation; *i. e.* every family to inoculate their own, without the assistance of a medical practitioner."

"It must readily appear, that inoculation is not so far understood by every head of a family, as to convince them they ought to adopt Dr Brown of Edinburgh's plan. A propensity to the hot treatment, so general in the Highlands

lands of Scotland, evinces the bad tendency of domestic inoculation."

"The previous preparation necessary to inoculation, in most cases, evinces the bad tendency of domestic inoculation."

"In justice to the more ignorant of my countrymen, medical people have their own predecessors to blame, for the propensity most people in the Highlands hold, to hot treatment in the small-pox; it was strongly inculcated by old physicians, and, no doubt, the new treatment, cannot for a time be generally received."

"Should this brief account of inoculation, in the course of eight months, be deemed any acquisition to the Statistical Account of this town and neighbourhood, I beg what may be considered interesting, with the view to prevent an unfortunate decrease of population by the epidemic small-pox, may be extracted as may seem most useful. I am so much engaged in business, that my time has not permitted that attention to the account which may perhaps be necessary. My observations rest on practice, and the following rules, if received, and sanctioned by medical authority of longer experience than mine, may tend to promote general inoculation."

"1. That whenever the epidemic prevails, inoculation should immediately be performed, on those not yet affected."

"2. That every one of influence, more especially the clergy, ought, as good members of society, to advise general inoculation."

"3. That all seasons, in Britain, may be adapted to inoculation."

"4. That healthy children, past four days of age, may be safely inoculated."

"5. That domestic inoculation, must, in general, be dangerous."

"6. That

“ 6. That previous preparation is most commonly necessary.”

“ I cannot help noticing, that the population of Scotland, has frequently been so diminished by the small-pox, as to call for an effectual remedy. We have it in inoculation, and yet the ancient fatal superstition is so little overcome, that many parts are either unacquainted that such a benefit exists, or little pains are taken to recommend it. As the Highland Society is so distinguished for its patriotic exertions, would it not be a most laudable effort in them, to adopt measures for promoting general inoculation, by allowing prizes to the surgeons who are most useful in that line.”

The following observations are drawn up by the same gentleman, respecting the diseases to which the people of this county are usually subject.

“ The diseases are occasionally very alarming. Fevers, generally designed nervous and putrid, are common, and very fatal, arising, in some degree, from the marshy effluvia; there is, however, a more general cause.”

“ From Wick, along the eastern and northern coast, to Dunnet, farmers depend on sea-ware for manure; to render it more effectual, the putrefactive process is promoted, by collecting it into considerable heaps. In that putrid state it remains during summer, when collected, to the spring ensuing. It is particularly fatal during summer and harvest, when the wind blows from the west to the east, the putrid effluvia being sent over a considerable extent of country. To give a short account of the result, in many cases I have had under my eye, and from what information I could collect, the common symptoms of low nervous fever has thence appeared: in two days after, violent delirium, and incessant vomiting; the event of which, between the fourth and the sixth day, was commonly fatal.”

“ The

“ The flux is a very common disease, and generally an attendant symptom of the nervous and putrid fever.”

“ The peasantry are more liable to disease, than the more wealthy farmers and landholders, which may be easily accounted for ; the dwelling of the peasant is close, confined, and dirty ; during the day he has been exposed to the weather, and rheumatism is of course become a very common complaint among them.”

“ The more wealthy, have well ventilated houses, good diet, and every necessary requisite to preserve health ; their diseases are few, and they are not arrived at that state of luxury, necessary to generate many, which are not unusual in other places.”

SECT. IV. *Longevity*.—There is now living in this parish, a man of 105 years of age, who travels about the country. A gentlewoman in town died a few weeks ago, aged 98 ; and one of the heritors of the parish, now in the 93d year of his age, exhibits an uncommon instance of old age, retaining the full possession of all his faculties. The people in general live to a good age, and are remarkably healthy.

CHAP. V. ECCLESIASTICAL STATE.

SECT. I. *State of the Established Church*.—By far the most numerous part of the inhabitants belong to the Established Church ; and though almost all the parishioners understand English, a sermon is preached every Sunday in the Erse or Gaelic. The Reverend Mr Patrick Nicolson is the present incumbent : his predecessors were Alexander Nicolson, James Gilchrist, William Innes, and Andrew Munro,

Munro, who, it is believed, was the first presbyterian minister in it.

SECT. II. *Manse, &c.*—The manse was built not many years ago, in a strong and substantial manner. The glebe is not large, but the land of which it consists is extremely valuable. The stipend was formerly 5 chalders of victual, half meal and half bear; 700 merks of money, and 100 merks for furnishing communion-elements, which has since been augmented. In the process of augmentation, the following scheme was given in of the rent and stipend of the parish, as it stood *anno* 1793.

SCHEME of the Rent and Stipend of the Parish of Thurso.

Heritors or Proprietors.	Lands or Estates.	Yearly rent, Sterl. money, victual at 10s. per boll.	Present Stipend.		
			Scotch money.		Victual, one-half bear one-half meal.
		L. s. d.	L. s. d.		B. F. P.
Sir John Sinclair, Baronet,	Thurso East, and town of Thurso,	1120 0 0	251 5 2	50 0 1	
Sir Robert Sinclair, Baronet,	East and West Brims,	127 0 0	32 0 0	8 1 2	
Dirto, -	West Murkle, Cleardon, &c.	120 0 0	99 2 0	5 1 1	
Late Capt Dunbar,	Aust, &c.	135 0 0	35 5 8	1 0 1	
Alex. Sinclair, Esq;	Forse,	120 0 0	23 15 10	3 0 3	
P. Murray Threip-land, Esq;	Pennyland,	70 0 0	29 1 0	0 0 0	
Jas. Sinclair, Esq;	Holburn-Head,	45 0 0	17 12 0	0 0 0	
Crown, -	Bilhoprick,	200 0 0	45 5 0	12 0 0	
Total, L.		1937 0 0	533 6 8	80 0 0	

By an interlocutor of the Court, dated 24th June 1795, the stipend is now augmented to 6 chalders of victual, half meal half bear, and L. 50 Sterling for money-stipend, together

gether with 100 merks Scotch money for communion-elements; which last allowance was afterwards increased to L. 100 Scotch, according to which the stipend is directed to be localled.

SECT. III. *Patron.*—Sir John Sinclair of Ulbster is the patron of the parish.

SECT. IV. *Dissenters.*—The dissenters from the Established Church, are seceders of the sect called Antiburghers. They have had a meeting house and a clergyman in Thurso for 26 years past. Their numbers, of late years, has rather been declining, and at present there are not above 70 people of this description in the town and parish.

CHAP. VI. CHARITABLE FUNDS AND INSTITUTIONS.

SECT. I. *Poor.*—There are a great many beggars and indigent people in this parish, not only natives of it, but persons who, falling off in their circumstances, resort to the town of Thurso, from the districts in the neighbourhood. The poor's funds are very trifling. They arise from the annual collections at the church-door, the fines or penalties occasionally imposed by the kirk-session on delinquents, and the interest of L. 50 left them some years ago by Dr Arthur Sinclair, who died in the service of the East India Company. The whole may amount, at an average, to about L. 25 *per annum*. It is divided by the kirk-session amongst the poor, as their respective circumstances may seem to require.

SECT. II. *Proposed Hospital.*—The county will at all times probably have one or more regularly educated surgeons, by which the health of the upper ranks will be properly

perly attended to when necessary. But the peasantry and servants are sometimes much neglected at present, inasmuch, that on a servant's being seized with any contagious disorder, they are sometimes turned out to find quarters where they best can; and in consequence of their being placed in that unfortunate situation, many must suffer.

It has therefore occurred to Mr Williamson, that it would be advisable to have an hospital in Thurso, for persons thus circumstanced; and it is proposed to have, as a measure of great humanity, and likely to be generally useful, one erected by the subscriptions of the merchants in the town, and the gentlemen in the neighbourhood.

CHAP. VII. EDUCATION.

SECT. I. *Schools for Boys.*—In the town there are two public schools, viz. the parochial or grammar school, and a charity school, upon the establishment of the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. The first is not in so flourishing a state at present as could be wished; but the other is doing well, under the management of a faithful, attentive, and diligent teacher. Besides these, there are some private schools, at which children are taught reading; and from the best account which could be obtained, the number of scholars in the different schools is as follows:

At the parochial school, 76

At the society's school, 64

At the different private schools, 102

In all, 242

SECT. II. *Proposed Academy.*—A plan has been suggested for establishing an academy in Thurso, where young men might be educated in a superior manner, than what a common school usually admits of, and it is certainly desirable, that such an institution should take place, where about 250 young men annually receive that education, on which their future success in life must in a great measure depend. The number would also certainly increase, if such an establishment were to take place. It is to be hoped that such a plan will be brought to bear, when the conclusion of the present war will admit of more attention to the internal improvement of the country.

SECT. III. *Female Education.*—It is much to be regretted, that there is not in Thurso a boarding-school for girls, where they might be taught needle-work, music, and the other branches of education suited to the sex. Some attempts have been made towards establishing such a seminary, but for want of public spirit, and public aid, these have hitherto proved ineffectual; nor will any thing of the kind succeed, until there is a fund established for paying a certain salary, and providing a free house for the accommodation of an accomplished schoolmistress, which might be easily done, were the gentlemen of the town to turn their thoughts seriously to this important subject.

CHAP. VIII. REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

SECT. I. *Customhouse.*—The establishment at the port of Thurso consists of a collector, a comptroller, a land-surveyor, a land-waiter, two established tidesmen, and one extraordinary tidesman; in all seven officers, whose salaries together
amount

amount to L. 170, which, with house-rent and other incidental charges, make the annual expenditure about L. 200.

The duties of Customs collected at the port, *communibus annis*, are not sufficient to defray the expence of the establishment; the goods exported to foreign parts, being such as are duty-free, and the imports being chiefly fir-spars and deals from Norway, of that description which pay only a low duty. The revenue, however, is increafing, and the establishment of a customhouse at Thurso, is essential for the convenience of its trade, and the commercial tranfactions of the neighbourhood.

SECT. II. *Post-Office*.—The postmaster of Thurso's allowance for salary and expence of runners to and from Dunbeath, is L. 47, 4 s. yearly. After defraying this expence, he remitted to the General Post-Office at Edinburgh, for the year ending 1796, the sum of L. 220, 19 s. of clear revenue, exclusive of the postages of letters sent in bye-bags. At present there are only three posts in the week to and from Thurso; but the gentlemen of the town and county have it in contemplation to apply for a daily post, which has been lately extended so far north as Dornoch, in the county of Sutherland.

SECT. III. *Excise*.—The present establishment of the Excise department at Thurso, including the county, consists of a collector, who likewise officiates as supervisor for the county, and five officers. Under the management of Mr Campbell, the present collector, the revenue has been more productive than at any former period. In the year from the 5th July 1796 to the 5th of July 1797, the gross amount

amount of the duties of Excise collected within the county of Caithness, was L. 1708 7 9 $\frac{3}{4}$

Officers salaries, and other expences of management within the same period, was 599 6 1 $\frac{1}{4}$

Remains of clear revenue, L. 1109 1 8

The last additional duty on the Highland distillery will add considerably to that branch of the revenue in Caithness. Since July 1797, there has been paid quarterly, from licensed stills in the county, at L. 6, 10 s. *per* gallon, the sum of L. 934 : 7 : 6.

SECT. IV. *Stamps*.—The distributor of stamps for Caithness, who resides in Thurso, remitted for last year to the Stamp-Office at Edinburgh, the sum of L. 207, for stamp-duties, after deducting the L. 10 *per centum* allowed for his own trouble.

CHAP. IX. MILITARY AND NAVAL DEPARTMENT.

SECT. I. *Military Spirit of the People of Caithness*.—The people of Caithness have long been remarkable for their attachment to the military life, and are allowed to make excellent soldiers, easily trained to arms, fit to undergo fatigue, and steady in action. No county in Scotland, of equal extent and population, has furnished half so many men for the regular forces as Caithness has done. It is observable, at the same time, that of late the people shew less inclination to the service than they did formerly, owing, it is believed, to their growing more industrious, and consequently finding their situation at home more comfortable than was the case some few years before. From this circumstance, and from the numbers that had previously gone
into

into other corps, it was not without the assistance of other parts of the kingdom, that three battalions of fencibles were raised in the county, namely, the *Rothelay and Caithness Fencibles*, of two battalions, commanded by Sir John Sinclair; and the *Caithness Legion*, of one battalion, commanded by Sir Benjamin Dunbar.

SECT. II. *Volunteers.*—This county has likewise given ample proofs of its loyalty in the raising of volunteer corps. There are now nine companies embodied, each consisting of sixty privates, with the usual number of officers, non-commissioned officers, and drummers, attached to each company; making in all an effective force of 640 men, including officers. Of these, five companies have offered their service in any part of the united kingdom. Nine additional companies were lately offered to be raised, but the offer has not been accepted.

SECT. III. *Seamen for the Navy.*—Before the American war, the people of Caithness were very little inclined to enter into the navy; but during that period, and since, this county has furnished a good many seamen for the navy. The collector of the Customs at *Thurso*, in the course of three years, engaged upwards of 70 men for that service; and if the naval regulations would admit of paying bounties to seamen upon their enlistment, instead of requiring their being first mustered on board ship, there would be no difficulty in finding men in Caithness to enter for the sea-service upon any emergency.

CHAP. X. MANUFACTURES AND TRADE.

SECT. I. *Manufactures of various sorts in the Town and Parish.*—In the town there are the following tradesmen, who find constant employment, viz.:

Weavers,

	No.
Weavers, including journeymen and apprentices,	73
Wrights, ditto, ditto,	69
Masons, ditto, ditto,	23
Shoemakers, ditto, ditto,	40
Tailors, ditto, ditto,	29
Coopers, ditto, ditto,	13
Blacksmiths,	6
Boat-builders,	3
Saddlers,	3
Watch and clock makers,	3
Dyers,	3
Bakers,	2
Barbers,	1

Besides these there is a cart and plough manufactory, which employs 13 wrights and 4 blacksmiths. There is a tannery doing remarkably well; and in the neighbourhood of the town there is a bleachfield, which, if properly attended to, will likewise turn out to advantage. The tannery and bleachfield were set on foot by the exertions of one of the proprietors, assisted by the public spirit of several gentlemen of the county, and merchants in town, who subscribed for the purpose. In order to encourage a public brewery, very much wanted, the same gentleman has disposed of a part of his property in town, on the most moderate terms, to one of the inhabitants, willing to undertake such a work; and the buildings requisite for the purpose are now erecting on an extensive scale. There is every reason to expect that the brewery will prove a profitable concern to the proprietor, and an useful work to the public; that it will lessen the consumption of spirits, and supersede the importation of London porter, which has of late years been growing to an extensive height.

The

The weavers are principally employed in the manufacture of linen cloths, but they also work coarse woollens and plaiding, of coarse wool, carried from the ports of Leith and Inverness. None of the finer wool, produced from the Cheviot breed of sheep, kept on the farms of Langwall and Armadale, is manufactured in the country. In the year 1796, the quantity of wool brought coastwise to the port of Thurso, was 151 cwt. 19 qrs. and 5 lb.

There is another species of manufacture, which, though it employs a great many hands, is not of much real benefit to the country; and that is the spinning of flax for the south country manufacturers. It appears by the Customhouse Books, that for the three years preceding the 1st of January 1797, the average amount of dressed flax which was brought coastwise to the port of Thurso, was 84,583 pounds weight *per annum*. This quantity of flax would produce 53,114 spyndles of yarn. The spinners are paid at the rate of 1 s. *per* spyndle, and the agents or factors employed to give out the flax, and take in the yarn, have 2 d. *per* spyndle for their trouble. So the spinners, for their labour, receive L. 2655 *per annum*; and the factors, for their trouble, L. 443; being, in all, L. 3098 *per annum*. But how inferior this to the profit which would accrue to the country, if the above quantity of flax were made into sewing threads, or manufactured into cloth in the country; and how small a consideration for the loss which the farmers sustain by the want of the labour of the women, employed in spinning, which might be more beneficially applied to the purposes of agriculture. It is true, that some proportion of the above-mentioned quantity of flax is made into cloth in the country, but it is, comparatively speaking, a small share, scarcely deserving of any notice.

SECT. II. *Coasting Trade*.—The coasting trade of the port of Thurso has been gradually increasing for the last 20 years, and is now pretty considerable. It employs about 11,500 tons of shipping, including the repeated voyages of the different vessels. Of these, 6000 tons, or thereby, are employed in the carriage of goods coastwise *from* the port, and about 5500 tons in carrying goods coastwise *to* the port.

The goods exported, or sent coastwise from the port, may be classed under the following heads, viz.

	L.	s.	d.
1st, Corn, grain, and oatmeal, to the value of - -	12000	0	0
2d, Fish, to the amount of -	13824	10	0
3d, Wool, to the amount of -	705	12	0
4th, Linen-yarn, ditto, -	5333	6	8
5th, Kelp, to the amount of	1250	0	0
6th, Other goods, such as salt-provisions, whisky, &c. &c. &c. supposed to the amount of -	2000	0	0
Total amount of exports,	L. 35113	8	8

The imports, or goods brought coastwise to the port, may be reduced to the following heads, viz.:

1st, Flax, dressed, to the amount of	L. 4500	0	0
2d, Fishery salt, ditto, -	2250	0	0
3d, Wood of all sorts, ditto, -	2500	0	0
4th, Wines and foreign spirits ditto,	1236	0	0
5th, Coals and lime, -	650	0	0

Carried forward, L. 11136 0 0

Brought over, L. 11136 0 0
 6th, Haberdashery, hardware, groceries,
 and other shop-goods, not under the
 value of - - - 27000 0 0

Total amount of imports, L. 38136 0 0

Deduct the exports, L. 35113 8 8

So the imports exceeds the exports by L. 3022 11 8

But it is to be considered, that, independent of the above trade, there are about 3000 black-cattle annually bought up in the county by drovers, who drive them by land to the southern markets. These taken at the low average of L. 3 *per* head, amount to - - - L. 9000 0 0

Deduct the foresaid excess of imports,

being - - - 3022 11 8

So the balance of trade in favour of the
 county is - - - L. 5977 8 4

Of late years, the quantities of corn and meal exported from the port of Thurso, have been less than formerly, which may be imputed to three causes. In the *first* place, To the increase of inhabitants, which, in the whole county, since the year 1755, amounts to 2587 souls; *2dly*, To the consumption of bear in the country by distillation, since small stills in the Highlands have been allowed by law; and, *3dly*, To the increased consumption of oats for horse-corn. Formerly the farmers used small horses or garrons, which seldom or ever got any corn; but now they have got into the use of larger horses, and these, in winter and spring, are regularly fed with oats. Neither are oxen so much employed in agriculture now as formerly. The county was in use to export, rather above than below, 25000 bolls of
 oatmeal

oatmeal and bear, or bigg, yearly; whereas now the average does not exceed 18000 bolls; one-third of that quantity being bear, and two-thirds oatmeal.

But what may be lost to the country by a decrease in the exportation of corn, is fully compensated by the increase in the exportation of fish, as to which, a more particular detail will be given in the next chapter.

SECT. III. *Foreign Commerce.*—The foreign trade at the port of Thurso is very inconsiderable, especially in war time. In times of peace, when bear and meal were low in price at home, considerable quantities of both, particularly of bear, were exported to Norway; in return for which, the vessels employed in this trade imported cargoes of wood and salt, and sometimes French wines, but of an inferior quality. This, with now and then a cargo of fish, constituted the foreign commerce of the port; but since the commencement of the present war, there has been no foreign trade at all, a few cargoes of wood only excepted.

SECT. IV. *Navigation and Shipping.*—There are at present belonging to the town and port of Thurso 16 decked vessels, (eight whereof belong to the town solely); whose tonnage together amounts to 858 tons. These are all employed in the coasting trade and the herring fishery.

The number of boats within the district may be about 130; and allowing 6 men to each boat, being the usual complement, there are 780 fishermen along the coast. But then it is to be observed, that of the above number, only 6 boats and about 40 men, (and these reside at Thurso), are constantly employed in fishing; the rest are farmers, tradesmen, or day-labourers, as well as occasional fishers; and, unless in the summer, during the herring-fishing season, fishing to them is but a secondary object.

SECT.

SECT. V. *Harbours and Dues.*—The harbours of Thurso and Wick are the only places deserving of the name on the coast of Caithness; and even these, in their present state, are but indifferent harbours, though capable of being made good ones at no great expence, particularly that of Thurso. In its present state, it admits vessels of 10 feet draught of water at stream-tides, and after getting in over the bar they lie in perfect safety; but for want of a pier or breast-work of stone, they can only load or unload with low-water.

The shore-dues at Thurso are only 1 s. 6 d. for each vessel. Ships belonging to the town pay no shore-dues; their owners, in lieu thereof, being at the expence of upholding poles for making the ships fast in the harbours. For each ship that puts a rope ashore at Scrabster Roads, the proprietor of Holburn-head is entitled to a merk Scots of ring-dues, for which he keeps iron rings fixed in the rock, to which the ships fasten their hawsers.

SECT. VI. *State of Freights.*—The freight paid for the carriage of goods to and from Thurso, are as follows, viz.

For each barrel-bulk to or from Leith,	L. 0	2	6
For ditto from Thurso to London,	0	3	6
For ditto from London to Thurso,	0	4	6
For each ton weight to Leith,	-	0	10 0
For ditto to Newcastle,	-	0	15 0

And so in proportion to and from other places, according to the length of the voyage.

SECT. VII. *Banks.*—The first Banking Company that established itself at Thurso, was the Commercial Company of Aberdeen; who began giving credits on cash-accounts, and discounting bills, in June 1790, and who, it is believed, carried

carried on a profitable connection with the county of Caithness; but being obliged, on the breaking out of the present war, to curtail the number of their branches, withdrew from Thurso in September 1793. Fortunately, however, a branch of that respectable and public-spirited Company, the Bank of Scotland, has taken place in its room, under the management of the same gentleman who had acted as agent for the Aberdeen Commercial Bank, and it now does a considerable deal of business. The branch there answers not only for the county of Caithness, but also for Strathnaver and the Orkneys; and whilst there is every reason to hope, that it will be attended with profit to the Bank, must, at the same time, contribute materially to the prosperity and improvement of the northern parts of Scotland.

CHAP. XI. FISHERIES.

SECT. I. *Salmon-Fishing*.—There are six rivers in Caithness where salmon is caught: Thurso, Berrydale, Langwall, Wick, Torfs, and Dunbeath. The three first of these are the exclusive property of Sir John Sinclair, Baronet; but the river Thurso is of greater value than all the rest, and rents for L. 300 *per annum*. It has frequently produced from 150 to 200 barrels of salmon in a season; and it is a fact well attested, that in the year 1736, 2560 salmon were taken in the course of a day, upon one pool on the river of Thurso. The salmon-fishing at Thurso commences in November, and ends in August. For many years past, the greatest part of the fish taken in this river, which are allowed to be of the best quality, have been boiled and kitted, and carried on board smacks to London, where they sell for a high price. Twelve hundred kitts have been sent from the river Thurso in a season, and the general average is from

from 700 to 800 kitts. This, of course, lessens the quantity of pickled salmon packed in barrels, and sent to foreign markets; but still there are about 250 barrels of salmon shipped annually at Thurso, which, however, includes the salmon taken in some rivers on the northern coast of the county of Sutherland. Until the last season, the Thurso salmon were all boiled and kitted at Wick, after being carried 20 miles over land on horseback. The expence necessarily attending so long a carriage was incurred to avoid the navigation of the Pentland Frith, which the smack-masters, until of late years, considered a hazardous undertaking; but now they make no account of it, and the fish are boiled and kitted in a neat and commodious boil-house, lately erected on the river side, on the east side of the harbour of Thurso.

SECT. II. *White Fishery*.—It has been shewn in the preceding chapter, that fish constitutes a principal part of the export trade of the port of Thurso, in the account of which, the amount of fish annually exported is set down at an average of L. 13824, 10 s. The calculation is made from the quantities of the different kinds of fish exported, taken from the books kept at the Customhouse, and the foresaid aggregate sum is composed of the following particulars :

	L.	s.	d.
1st, Salmon barrelled and kitted, valued at	1610	0	0
2d, Herrings, white and red, at	9914	10	0
3d, Wet cod and ling, at	1200	0	0
4th, Dry cod and ling, at	1100	0	0

In all, as before, L. 13824 10 0

Nor can this calculation be thought exaggerated by any means, when it is considered, that on an average of the last
nine

nine years, from the 1st of January 1789, 7436 barrels of herrings have been caught and cured yearly at the port of Thurso. Of this number two-thirds, or 4958 barrels, are cured as white herrings; and one-third, or 2478 barrels are cured as red herrings. The white herrings are valued at L. 1, 5s. and the red herrings at L. 1, 10s. *per* barrel, which is not by any means an over rate. Both kinds are in general sent coastwise from the port of Thurso to the port of London; whence the white herrings are for the most part exported to the West Indies; and the red herrings are there entered for home consumption.

The average of cod and ling is taken at 800 barrels of wet cod, being what is caught in the winter and spring seasons, and 55 tons of dried fish, being what is caught and dried in the summer and harvest months. These also find their market in London, and are partly exported from thence, and partly entered there for home consumption.

Besides the aforesaid herrings, cured and packed into barrels at the port, there is seldom a season in which there are not some cargoes of herrings in bulk sent to the ports of Dunbar and Berwick, where they are afterwards packed into barrels, or sold for immediate use to the country people. The herrings sent annually in this way, would, if packed, fill 1000 barrels at the most moderate computation.

Before the year 1770, the herring-fishery on the Caithness coast never amounted to 900 barrels of cured herrings in one season. That year the quantity cured was 1853 barrels; and from that period the fishing increased gradually for a few years; but afterwards fell off again, and did not revive with spirit until the year 1788, since which period it has continued to be carried on with good success.

It appears, that early in the present century, there was a very considerable cod-fishing carried on at the port of Thurso, in which some of the first proprietors in the country

try were concerned; but after being carried on some years, it was discontinued, and entirely neglected for near 50 years, when the House of Charles and Robert Fall of Dunbar*, in the year 1780, entered into contract with all the fishermen in the county, to take, at certain fixed prices, all the cod and ling they could catch. Curers were stationed at different places round the coast, who received the fish the instant they were brought on shore; and thus encouraged, the fishermen again began to seek for cod and ling, and their success exceeded their most sanguine expectations. But still there is room for considerable extension and improvement in this branch of the fishery.

SECT. III. *Lobster Fishery*.—Very little has hitherto been done in lobster fishing in Caithness, although there can be no doubt but that the coast abounds with that species of fish. In Thurso Bay, and at Mey, it has been tried with pretty good success, but not to that extent as to make it an object of attention to the London fishmongers.

SECT. IV. *London Smacks*.—Before the commencement of the present war, a London cod smack never was seen in Pentland Frith. Being driven from the Dogger Bank, by the annoyance of French and Dutch privateers, they ventured to explore, the northern coasts of Caithness and Sutherland, in search of cod; and now, as a proof of their success, and that they find no danger in the experiment, it is no uncommon thing, to see *five and twenty* London smacks

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* It was principally at the instigation, and by the encouragement of Sir John Sinclair, that the Messrs Falls engaged in this undertaking. The consequence was, that great numbers of men, were so much accustomed to the sea, as to be little inclined to enter into the military service, when he raised his two battalions of Fencibles. Hence it may be inferred, that when agriculture, commerce, manufactures, and the fisheries, are established all over the Highlands, the military spirit will of course subside, and the military strength of the country must be diminished.

at once lying at anchor in Scrabster Roads. They come upon the coast in September, and continue until March ; and no sooner carry one cargo of live fish to market, than they return for another. For the most part, they fish in Pentland Frith, through the day-time, and in the evenings return to Scrabster Roads, to lie during the night. But sometimes they run as far to the westward as Cape Wrath, and when they do not find it convenient to return to Scrabster Roads, they take shelter in Loch Eribol, or Erripool.

Our native fishermen, do not bear the London smacks the best good will ; they complain that they carry off the fish which they should catch ; and it is certain, that when our Thurso fishers catch few cod, the London smacks pick them up in abundance ; but the reason is obvious, the smacks fish with muscles or whelks for bait, which are far superior to the limpet, always used by the Thurso fishers.

That the smack cod-fishing, might be carried on to advantage by ourselves, can admit of no doubt, unless we were to suppose it possible, that the London fishmongers, would consider it as interfering with their trade, and combine to disappoint us of a market for our fish. One thing is certain, that we could fish at less expence than they do, by employing the country fishermen, who would be content with lower wages, and cheaper provisions, than is given on board the English smacks. These now employ occasionally some of the Thurso fishers, as extra hands, and pay them 12 s. *per* week of wages, and allow them all the small fish they catch to themselves. The English fishers receive 18 s. *per* week.

CHAP. XII. POLICE AND SUPPLY.

SECT. I. *Fairs*.—It was observed, in chapter 3, that by the charter of erection of the burgh, power was granted for holding weekly markets within the same, with
four

four free fairs yearly; but that of the yearly fairs, only two are in use to be held, viz. one on St Peter's Day, and one commencing in August, and ending in September.

SECT. II. *Markets.*—The weekly markets are held regularly every Friday, and afford to the inhabitants a sure and regular supply of butcher-meat, fish, poultry, and garden stuffs. Not many years ago, these articles were to be had at very moderate prices; beef and mutton so low as 1 d. or $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. *per lb.* weight; but now a pound of beef or mutton cannot be bought under 4 d. and the smallest quantity of beef that can be purchased, is a quarter; so that, in fact, the consumer pays equal to 5 d. or 6 d. *per lb.* for choice pieces. Other articles of provisions have advanced in the same proportion. A goose, which sold for 8 d. now draws 1 s. 6 d. or 1 s. 8 d.; and a barn-yard fowl, which sold currently for 3 d. now gives 5 d. or 6 d. Fish has also increased two or threefold in price; but still it is not unreasonably high, and always to be had in abundance, that is, cod, haddocks, flat fish, great quantities of a kind of fish here called cuddies, and, at certain seasons, myriads of a small fish here called fellocks. These two last, besides affording a cheap diet to the lower classes, yield a good deal of oil from their livers, which gives a cheap light to the manufacturers and trades people.

SECT. III. *Consumption of Cattle, Fish, and other Articles.*—It is not easy to ascertain, with correctness, the number of black cattle consumed annually at Thurso, but it runs from 200 to 300 head. There is a very considerable number of slaughtered sheep and swine, likewise bought and sold in the weekly markets, but the number cannot be ascertained with any degree of precision; and to hazard even a guess at the quantity of fish brought to market, would be still more precarious and uncertain.

SECT.

SECT. IV. *Supply of Fuel.*—The fuel most generally used in Thurso is peat and turf; but, of late years, coal has become the favourite fire with the better sort of people, and every year increases the importation of coals to Thurso; and though, notwithstanding the exemption from duty, it still sells as high, nay, higher than when the duty was paid, yet such is the advanced price of peats, that such of the inhabitants as use coal, find it the cheaper firing of the two; and in all probability, a few years more, will bring coals into general use in town. It should seem strange, that the taking off the duty on coals, reckoned so heavy a grievance to the northern parts of Scotland, should afford the consumer no actual relief in the price of the commodity. But such is the case, at least in Caithness, where, in fact, the price of both English and Scotch coals are higher than when the duty was exacted. The merchant pleads the advance of freight and seamens wages, in consequence of the war, and the time which vessels sent to load coals in the Frith of Forth, must lie at the works, before they can get their cargoes, owing to the additional demand. But allowing to both these considerations their due weight, yet still 16 s. or 17 s. *per* ton for Scotch coals, and 20 s. or 21 s. *per* ton for English coals, is certainly too high a price.

SECT. V. *Prices of Labour.*—As the prices of provisions have advanced, so have the prices of labour likewise. The present rate of wages to tradesmen and labourers, is as follows:

To journeymen weavers <i>per</i> day,	L. 0	1	0
To wrights ditto,	0	1	3
To masons ditto,	0	1	6
To shoemakers ditto,	0	1	6
To tailors ditto,	0	1	0
To blacksmiths ditto,	0	2	0
To an ordinary labourer by the day,	0	1	0

CHAP. XIII. MANNERS AND CUSTOMS.

SECT. I. *Public Amusements*.—The people in general are remarkably sober, regular, and attentive to business. Their favourite, and indeed only public amusement, is dancing, in which they are excellent proficient.

SECT. II. *Societies and Clubs*.—They have no clubs, but there are four friendly societies in town, each of which has its peculiar rules and regulations, and a fund for the relief of indigent members, &c. These are, the Society of Weavers, Fishers, Trades, and United Craftsmen. The last is only lately established, but promises to be the richest society of the four.

There is a lodge of Free Masons, both numerous and respectable, called Thurso St John's, which stands No 45. in the roll of Scotch lodges. On festival days, from 50 to 60 Brethren commonly attend, and such is the state of their funds, that they have it now in contemplation, to build an elegant lodge-room, which they propose to add to the new town-house.

SECT. III. *Inns*.—There are two very good inns in town; and the one having been lately set up, in opposition to the other, has begot an emulation, and a spirit of rivalry in both, which operates favourably to the traveller and the public. Mr Morrison, the senior innkeeper, is just now finishing a large assembly room, which he has added to his house, which will surpass any thing of the kind to the northward of Inverness. The dimensions are 37 feet long, by $18\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, and 16 feet in height. This innkeeper is deserving of encouragement from the public, and he meets with it.

CHAP. XIV. ARTS AND SCIENCES.

Under this branch, all that can be looked for in these hints, is, to enumerate the number of persons, of each profession, resident in Thurso, or connected with it.

SECT. I. *Law*.—There are a greater number of *limbs of the law* in Thurso, than in many places of much greater extent. There are no fewer than eight public notaries, five of whom are messengers at arms; and there is, besides, one messenger who is not a notary. For the credit of the country, however, it is fair to add, that less than one half the number of this profession, would be fully adequate to the business both in town and country; and that the spirit of litigation, for which the people of Caithness were too long distinguished, in the records of the courts of law, is now happily beginning to subside.

SECT. II. *Physic*.—There are now three surgeons settled in Thurso, all active young men, which indeed their situation requires them to be; for, in the winter seasons, the practice of Caithness is peculiarly trying to the constitution of this class of the community. These are the only medical persons in the country who have received a regular education.

SECT. III. *Divinity*.—There is but one clergyman of the Established Church in Thurso.

There is a seceder chapel in town, but it is at present vacant, by the death of the last incumbent, Mr Dowie, who was an inoffensive and well-meaning man.

The followers of Messrs Haldane and Aikman, are collecting subscriptions for building a Kirk of Relief, and providing a stipend for a minister, from among the Missionarian tribe;

tribe ; but how far their endeavours may ultimately prove successful, seems at present doubtful.

SECT. IV. *Music*.—The violin, and Highland bag-pipe, are the only musical instruments, played on by professional men in Thurso. The Highland reels are played particularly well, on both these instruments, in Caithness ; but the proper slow bag-pipe tunes and marches, are not given in that perfection here, which seems almost peculiar to the West Highland pipers.

SECT. V. *Painting*.—In the department of painting, Thurso has to boast of giving birth to an artist of considerable merit as a portrait-painter, in the person of Mr Macintosh, whose father was parish-schoolmaster of Thurso. His son, at an early period of life, discovered a natural genius for painting. He afterwards studied at London, and is now an eminent portrait-painter at Moscow in Russia.

Under this head, it may be proper to take notice, of two young ladies, (the Miss Liddles), natives of Thurso, now in Edinburgh, who possess a great turn or genius both for music and painting. There are miniature pictures drawn by these ladies, some taken from the life, and others copied, which would do no discredit to the pencil of the first artists.

SECT. VI. *Poetry*.—The celebrated Highland bard, Robert Dòm, *alias* Mackay, was a native of Strathnaver, not far distant from Thurso. His poems and his songs are no stranger to the amateurs of Gaelic verse ; and, considering that the author had none of the advantages of education, indeed that he could neither read nor write, the force of his natural genius has justly excited admiration. A clergyman of

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Sutherland, lately deceased, was at some pains to collect Robert Donn's works, and commit them to writing, with a design to have them published. The manuscript, was lately laid before the Highland Society of Edinburgh, under whose patronage, they will soon, it is hoped, be given to the public.

There is a gentleman of the same name, (Mackay), a native of Thurso, and residing in that town, who possesses a good deal of poetical fancy, and has given some proofs of his talents in that line, by no means amiss. He is Adjutant to the Thurso Volunteers, and as a specimen of his poetical abilities, the copy of a song, which he composed on that corps, is inserted in a note *.

SECT.

• THE THURSO VOLUNTEERS.

WHERE foaming surges sweep the shore,
And swelling billows rise;
Where rude Boreas makes them roar,
And mingle with the skies;
To shield us from sedition's thrall,
Our loyalty to prove,
We rise at once at Freedom's call,
In unity and love.

While for our glorious liberty
Each noble soul appears,
Here, in the North, her guard shall be
The THURSO VOLUNTEERS.

Let sons of Sloth and Discord fret,
Because despis'd and poor,
And for misfortunes blame the State,
Which they themselves procure;
May all those traitors, who conspire
To turn our laws like France,
Be found, and banish'd for their hire,
Or in a halter dance.

Let

SECT. VII. *Eminent Men.*—The Oswalds of Glasgow, who have long been eminent merchants, derived their origin from Thurso. Their ancestor was one of the Bailies of Thurso, in the last century. Richard Oswald, late merchant in London, and one of the Plenipotentiaries from the Court of Great Britain at settling the peace of 1783, was, in his younger days, an unsuccessful candidate, upon a comparative trial, for the office of master of the parochial school of Thurso, whereof the salary was L. 100 Scotch, and took

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his

Let Prudence teach us to fulfil
 The duties which are ours,
 Sufficient wealth shall bless our toil,
 Our law the same secures.
 Thus, while its statutes so benign
 Leave nothing to regret,
 To Politicians we resign
 The whole affairs of State.

Long may our gracious Sovereign live
 In happiness and peace;
 May trade in our dominions thrive,
 And war and faction cease:
 And, as our Constitution's frame
 Is settled firm and just,
 May all the pillars of the same
 Be faithful to their trust.

That friendship fixes every mind
 Our actions shall display;
 Because our Officers are kind,
 We shall with love obey.
 The en'mies of our freedom dear
 We ever shall oppose;
 And we shall imitate with care
 The public zeal of ROSE*.

* John Rose, Esq; Major-Commandant.

his disappointment so much to heart, that he left the country in disgust, and never more returned to it. But for that circumstance, it is probable, he would have lived and died in obscurity.

CHAP. XV. MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

SECT. I. *Antiquities*.—The antiquities to be taken notice of in this district, are the following, namely, 1st, An arch, at Thurso East, the seat of Sir John Sinclair; 2^{dly}, The burial place of Harold Earl of Caithness; and, 3^{dly}, The Picts houses, as they are called, which formerly abounded in this part of the kingdom.

1. The arch at Thurso East, or Thurso Castle as it is sometimes called, was built in the year 1665, and perhaps is the most ornamental piece of architecture in the north. The contract between George, Earl of Caithness, and Donald Ross, master mason, for the building of that arch, is still on record; from which it appears, that the agreed price was 600 merks, a considerable sum in those days. The arch has been lately repaired, and promises to last for many years longer.

2. The earldom of Caithness was formerly possessed by a family of the name of Harold, some account of whose history is given by Torfæus, the Danish historian, extracts of which may be seen in Mr Pennant's Tours. One of those warriors was killed in the neighbourhood of Thurso, and the stones, marking the place where his body was buried, were well known by tradition. The late Mr Alexander Pope, minister of Reay, who was the greatest antiquary in the north, knew this circumstance well, and being anxious to have that ancient monument preserved, drew up the following

following petition, in the name of Earl Harold, and sent it to the Author.

“EARL HAROLD the Younger to the LAIRD of ULBSTER.

“Know, Sir, that I was slain in battle, about the year
 “1190, near your park of Kirkwall, and buried within that
 “piece of ground, and had an elegant chapel erected over
 “my grave, the stones whereof are built now in your inclo-
 “sure in that place. I had once a right to half of Orkney
 “and Zetland, also to the half of Caithness, and an estate
 “in Sutherland, where I was born. My right to Ork-
 “ney and Zetland, I derived from the King of Norway,
 “and to Caithness, from King William the Lyon of Scot-
 “land. I lost my life in battle, endeavouring to recover
 “my property out of the hands of a wicked and daring ty-
 “rant, Earl Harold the Elder, justly styled Wicked Earl
 “Harold. Be pleased to inclose my grave in a decent
 “manner, so as not to become the resting-place of animals,
 “or that my bones be not ploughed up. My grave is now
 “all my estate, which ought to be held inviolable. By so
 “doing, you shew a noble example to others, to honour the
 “memory of the brave, though unfortunate; you make re-
 “stitution, as my chapel is now carried away; you give a
 “caution to others, not to violate the sepulchres of the
 “dead; and it will yield you the most manly and sensible
 “pleasure, to have done an action commendable in itself,
 “and which will perpetuate your memory to posterity.

“*Farewell, and prosper.*”

In consequence of this application, the author was tempt-
 ed to erect a monument to Earl Harold, an engraving of
 which is annexed, and which has proved a considerable or-
 nament to the neighbourhood.

It

3. It is well known, that the northern parts of Scotland, were formerly inhabited by the Pictish tribes, and many constructions of a singular nature, known under the name of *Picts Houses*, are scattered over the county of Caithness. In the course of carrying on his improvements, the author was led, several years ago, to examine one of these buildings, and he drew up, at the time, the following hints, respecting their nature and construction.

The foundation of the house was laid with clay, but they seem to have been totally unacquainted with the use of lime as a cement; nor was even clay itself made use of in the upper part of the building.

Many of the stones were of an enormous size, and evidently brought from the shore, though the distance is not inconsiderable. They could neither be carried there, nor afterwards made use of, without great strength, or ingenious mechanical inventions.

Some earthen ware was discovered, very rudely manufactured, a sufficient proof at how low an ebb the arts were in the Pictish nations.

A few small copper coins were found in the ruins, but much defaced, and the letters engraved illegible.

From the number of horns and shells found in the house, it is probable that the principal food of the inhabitants consisted of venison, and the shell-fish called limpets. The bones of cattle were also discovered, which proves that pasturage was not wholly unknown.

The Picts seem to have been acquainted with the use of iron, for a knife was found calculated for taking the limpets off the rocks, and such as is in use to this day.

Some singular articles made of bone were discovered, the nails by which they were fixed were of bone also, but the use of them is unknown.

The

The entrance into the house was low and winding, and tradition says, when the men went out a-hunting, that their wives and families were rendered inaccessible, by large stones placed both within and without, to exclude beasts of prey, or more dangerous enemies.

On the whole, the Picts, as far as we can judge from these buildings, seem to have been a rude nation, possessed of strong bodies, but of untutored minds, and living in such a state, that the poorest peasant now enjoys better food, and more comfort, than the most powerful chieftain could boast of in those days of barbarism.

SECT. II. *Mines*.—Many appearances of a mineral nature have been found in this parish and the neighbourhood; in particular, *anno* 1797, some very rich pieces of lead-ore were got, opposite to the bleachfield, but it would seem, from their appearance, the edges being much worn and rounded, that they must have come from a higher part of the river. In 1790, the Author had some correspondence with a Lead Company, (No. 9. Martin's Lane, Cannon Street, London), and on that occasion drew up the following proposals, which it may not be improper to preserve.

Proposals transmitted by Sir JOHN SINCLAIR to the LEAD COMPANY, for letting a Lease of the Mine of Skinnet, in the County of Caithness, North Britain, *anno* 1790.

The Hill of Skinnet is about four English miles from the town and harbour of *Thurso*, in the county of Caithness. It is the property of Sir John Sinclair of Ulbster, and an idea being very prevalent, that some mines existed in that place, Sir John was led, in the course of the year 1787, to endeavour to discover the nature of the ore which might be found there; and in tracing the course of what is called in
that

that country a *burn* (or rivulet), he accidentally hit upon a small vein of yellow mundick, of about 3 inches in breadth; and upon digging a little deeper, he met with a great mass of white mundick, several cart-loads of which were dug up without the smallest difficulty.

Upon shewing specimens of these articles to persons skilled in mineralogy, particularly to some Cornish miners, they told him, that the mundicks he had found, however brilliant, were in themselves of no real value; but they informed him, in their technical language, "that mundick, in such quantities, was a good sign of more valuable veins: " That the white mundick, in particular, was a good *horse-man*, and always rode on a *good load*." And, in short, pressed him to make further trials and inquiries.

Mr Raspe, a German mineralogist, having come into the county of Caithness last autumn, (*anno* 1789), was employed by Sir John Sinclair to make trials in the same place; and not far from the mundick, he discovered a regular vein of heavy spar, mixed with lead and crystals, three feet in breadth, and very near the spot where the mundick was found. No further progress was made, than merely to ascertain the size of the vein, and the nature of the metal which it contained.

Sir John does not propose to work this mine himself, and is very well disposed to give every reasonable encouragement to any respectable Company that would undertake it.

The Company would have several advantages in carrying on this mine. The miners and other workmen, and any tools that might be necessary, might be transported by sea to the town of Thurso, within four miles of the vein.

Any additional workmen that might be required, might be got at an easy rate, labour not being very dear in the country.

The

The road, at present, from Skinnet to Thurso is not very good, but it might be completed at a small expence.

Peats or turf, for fuel, are scarce, but of water there is abundance, and coals may be transported by sea to Thurso.

The value of the mine might be tried at a small expence, as it lies on the side of a hill, gently sloping about half-a-mile higher than the river Thurso; but with such a descent to the river, that no engine would be necessary for clearing off the water.

Were this mine not to answer, there are many other appearances on the estate of Sir John Sinclair, and on the property of other gentlemen in the neighbourhood, which might be well worthy the attention of the Company.

After some correspondence upon the subject, the plan was dropped, the Company refusing to send their agent to view the premises, unless the proprietor was to be at the whole expence of the survey. There are certainly, however, some valuable mines in that neighbourhood, either in the parish of Thurso, or that of Halkirk, which, it is to be hoped, will, some time or other, be worked to advantage.

SECT. III. *Quarries*.—In every part of the parish there are quarries of whin-stone, and in some places of grey slate, which are frequently used in covering the roofs of houses. In the shores of Scrabster and Pennyland, there is, as formerly observed, a good free-stone quarry below flood-mark, but accessible and easily wrought at low-water.

SECT. IV. *Natural Curiosities*.—The rocks which bound the coast from Holburnhead to Brims Castle, exhibit various scenes of natural grandeur. The Clett is an insulated rock of great height, separated from the land by a deep channel, not above 80 yards across at the broadest part. The rock itself is perpendicular on all sides, and may be about 160 yards

yards long, and half that breadth. Its height is supposed to be about 400 feet above the surface of the sea. It is well worth the visiting, particularly in the months of May, June, and July, when it is frequented by immense flocks of sea fowl, chiefly gulls, cormorants, and marrots, which come there to nestle. The marrots range themselves in regular lines on the shelves of the rock, and being rather a silly unsuspecting bird, they frequently fall in dozens to the shot of the cruel sportsman, who reaps no other advantage from his prey, except the savage pleasure of destroying it. These birds have an excellent plumage, and their feathers might be turned to good account; but as yet no attempts to that effect have been made. Their flesh is eat only by the fishermen, who indeed value it so much, that, with a tolerable marksman, they will pass a day at the Clett shooting, without asking any other consideration for their trouble.

SECT. V. *Mineral Springs*.—There are no mineral springs of any note in the parish, nor indeed within the county, except near Wick, where there is a copious mineral spring, the waters of which seems to partake of the nature and qualities of the Peterhead Waters.

SECT. VI. *Natural History*.—Nothing remarkable occurs in this department.

CHAP. XVI. COUNTRY PART OF THE PARISH.

SECT. I. *Live-Stock*.—In an account taken in March 1797, of the live and dead stock of the county of Caithness, by the Lord-Lieutenant, in consequence of a circular letter from the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the

the live-stock of the parish of Thurso was stated as follows, viz.:

Number of horses, of every description,	534
———— cows and other black cattle,	937
———— sheep,	688
———— hogs,	280

SECT. II. *Produce.*—It would be difficult to ascertain the produce of the parish with perfect accuracy, the lower classes of farmers being always very unwilling to divulge what they sow, or what they reap, from their farms; but from the best calculation of which the case is capable, the annual produce may be taken in the following proportions:

Oats,	11998	bolts.
Bear,	4113	—
Potatoes,	918	—
Turnips,	15	acres.
Meadow hay or natural grafs,	3000	stones.
Sown grafs,	9000	—

SECT. III. *Rent.*—The valued rent of the parish is as follows:

	Scotch.
Of landed property,	L. 4800 0 6
Town of Thurso,	666 13 4
Salmon-fishing in the river of Thurso,	300 0 0
Total,	L. 5766 13 10

The real rent of the parish may be taken in the following proportions:

	Sterling.
Landed property,	L. 1714 5 6
Salmon-fishing of Thurso,	300 0 0
Houses in the town of Thurso,	1000 0 0
Total of real rent,	L. 3014 5 6

SECT. IV. *Mills*.—There are ten corn mills, one flax mill, and two snuff mills in the parish; but not well supplied with water, excepting in the winter season.

SECT. V. *Gardens*.—In the immediate neighbourhood of the town there is a public garden, containing seven acres of ground, which, with the garden of Geise, supplies the town plentifully with vegetables. There are a few private gardens in the parish, but these are indifferently attended to.

SECT. VI. *Woods and Plantations*.—There is no natural wood in the parish, and the few attempts made in the planting way have not been successful. It is in contemplation, however, to plant forest trees along the banks of the Thurso, which, there is little doubt, will thrive, and prove equally useful and ornamental.

SECT. VII. *Commons*.—There are large tracts of valuable commons in the parish, very capable of cultivation, and hitherto, nothing has contributed so much to their lying so long in a state of nature, as their remaining undivided.

SECT. VIII. *Rural Improvements*.—The first step towards improving those commons, must be a division of the property, so as to ascertain each proprietor's share and interest therein. This being once effected, he would be blind indeed to his own interest, who did not set to work with heart and hand, to cultivate and improve his portion of such waste lands.

For such improvements there are many natural advantages, by the facility with which lime may be imported, by the sea-ware driven upon the coast, and by the sea-sand, which can be had in any quantity, and which the people
of

of Cornwall, at the other end of the island, find so productive and valuable, that they carry it, on the back of horses, for many miles, and, with its assistance, raise wheat on the most barren moors *.

C O N C L U S I O N.

SECT. I. *Peculiar Advantages of Thurso in its present State.*—In its present state, Thurso is well situated for trade, manufactures, and fisheries. It has ready access to the navigation of the Atlantic and German Oceans, and its productions are well calculated for the trade of both. Situated in a country where provisions are cheap, manufactures of various kinds might be carried on to advantage; and in few places on the coast of Scotland, can fisheries be prosecuted, with greater certainty of success, than on the coast of Caithness. In short, nothing seems wanting except an increase of capital, and the example of a few enterprising merchants and manufacturers, to make Thurso a flourishing and an opulent place. Without those aids, it is already advancing rapidly towards improvement, merely through the industry and exertions of a few individuals, of moderate capitals.

SECT. II. *Improvements suggested.*—The harbour may be improved at a small expence; and a pier at Scrabster could be erected for less than L. 2000, which would be of great public utility. The depth of water, the vicinity of excellent stone for the purpose, are advantages which that place possesses in a peculiar degree.

It is peculiarly well calculated, for a station to the British Fishing Society, if a plan for that purpose could be arranged among the parties interested.

It

* For other particulars, on this branch of the subject, the reader is referred to the Agricultural Survey of Caithness.

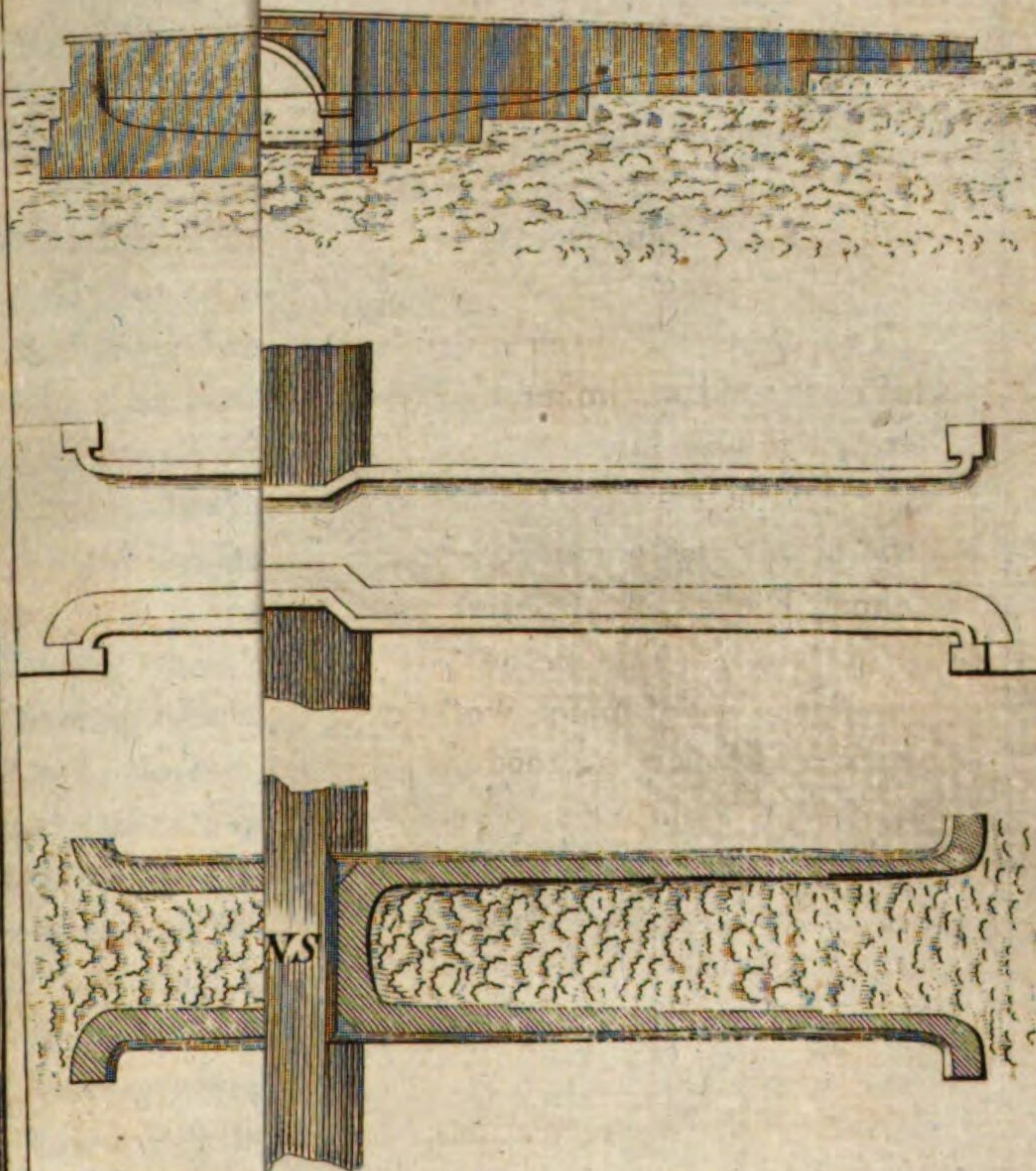
It must be acknowledged, that the police of the town admits of great improvements indeed. The streets are in a most wretched state, though the inhabitants would cheerfully contribute to new-pave them, if a plan for that purpose were set on foot. As an inducement to them to assess themselves for that purpose, the superior intends to allow the customs of the public markets, to be applied for a limited time to that purpose.

The want of a bridge across the river is a great inconvenience, both to the town and the surrounding county; but without public aid, there is little prospect of getting that inconvenience removed.

Two plans have been proposed for erecting a bridge over this river; one of timber, and the other of stone. The timber bridge was intended to be 363 feet long, and the estimate of the expence was L. 211, 16s. A plan of the stone bridge was drawn up by that excellent engineer, John Rennie, Esq; of New Surrey Street, London, and the following was the estimate he drew up:

To 30 roods of mason-work in the wing walls and span-drills, at L. 7 <i>per</i> rood,	-	L. 210	0	0
To 15 roods in piers and abutments, at L. 8, 8 s.	-	126	0	0
To 6588 cubic feet of stone-work in arches, at 5 d.	-	135	11	8
To 6 $\frac{2}{3}$ roods of parapet, with coping, at L. 10, 16 s.	-	72	0	0
To digging the foundations, and filling up the spaces between the wing walls and arches,	-	74	10	0
To 2 centres,	-	60	12	0
To foot-paving,	-	15	0	0
To pumping water from the foundations, and fundries,	-	62	0	0
		L. 755	13	8
				The

THURSO.



Jn. Renne

Gavin sculp^t.

count of SCOTLAND.

The want of a prison is likewise a serious evil. It weakens the hands of the magistrate, however willing he may be to do his duty. For at present the smallest misdemeanor cannot be punished by imprisonment, without sending the offender to the county jail of Wick, at the distance of 20 miles from Thurso, which necessarily occasions a heavy expence to the prosecutor, public or private, and, of course, is the cause of many offences passing with impunity, which would otherwise meet their due punishment.

SECT. III. *General Result.*—We have thus exhibited, what appears to us, a model, well calculated for drawing up the Statistical Account of a district, where the commerce and other circumstances connected with a town, are the sole, or even the principal objects meriting attention. In a country district, however, a different arrangement must be followed, and the number of heads or articles will of course be fewer.

On the whole, in regard to this district, it must furnish the reader, who resides at a distance from it, with no inconsiderable degree of satisfaction, to have thus laid before him, so minute an account, of so remote a parish; and to see, that a foundation is there laid, for promoting the improvement of the country, and the comfort of its inhabitants *.—What important effects, it may be added, may not be expected, should a similar spirit be excited in, and spread over, every other part of the kingdom? It would soon render Great Britain, not only the richest and most powerful, but also the happiest country in the universe.

* It was the success which attended the Author's agricultural pursuits, in so remote a part of the kingdom, which first impressed him, with a full conviction, of the improvements that might be made, in a better climate, and where other advantages were attainable. Hence, in a great measure, proceeded, the establishment of a Board of Agriculture, and all the advantages which will probably result, from that important institution.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE PARISH OF THURSO.

Average of births from 1790 to 1795, - - - 102	Num. of saddlers, - 3
— of marriages from ditto to ditto, - 24	— of officers of Excise residing in the parish, - 6
Number of proprietors, 6	— sheriff officers, 3
— clergymen *, - 2	— clerks, 3
— merchants, - 3	— coopers, - 13
— physicians and surgeons, - 3	— dyers, - 3
— writers or attornies, 8	— barbers, - 1
— schoolmasters †, - 2	— ferrymen, - 2
— farmers above L. 50 per annum, 4	— kirk officers, - 2
— ditto under L. 50 80	— tanners, - 3
— shopkeepers, - 30	— curriers, - 2
— innkeepers, - 3	— clock and watch-makers, - 3
— blacksmiths, - 6	— alehouse keepers, 20
— goldsmiths, - 1	— mantuamakers, 3
— masons, - 23	— Chelsea pensioners, 12
— carpenters or wrights, 69	— bleachers, - 1
— boat ditto, - 3	— messengers, - 2
— weavers, including apprentices, 73	— poor, - 120
— shoemakers, - 40	— capital of their funds, L. 50
— tailors, including journeymen and apprentices, - 29	— annual income, L. 25
— butchers, - 2	— young person taught English, writing, &c. at the parochial school, 76
— millers, - 9	— at the Society's school, 64
— bakers, - 2	— at various private schools, - 102
— gardeners, - 3	— cottagers, - 59

* The Established and Seceder.

† The Parochial and Society.

APPENDIX,

APPENDIX, No. II.

Value of Stock and Annual Produce.

VALUE OF STOCK.

No. of		L. s. d.		L. s. d.
Best draught and saddle horses,	100	valued at 16 0 0 each.	Total	1600 0 0
Inferior do.	434	8 0 0		3472 0 0
Best cattle,	200	8 0 0		1600 0 0
Inferior do.	737	3 0 0		2211 0 0
Best sheep,	200	0 8 0		80 0 0
Inferior do.	488	0 4 0		97 12 0
Hogs,	280	0 6 0		84 0 0

Total value of stock, L. 9144 12 0

ANNUAL PRODUCE.

CROPS.	No. of acres under each.	Produce per acre. BOLLS.	Price per Boll. L. S. D.	Total price per Acre. L. S. D.	Total produce. BOLLS.	Total value. L. S. D.
Oats,	2999	4	0 6 0	1 4 0	11,998	3599 8 0
Bear,	822	5	0 12 0	3 0 0	4,113	2467 16 0
Barley,	none	—	0 0 0	0 0 0	—	0 0 0
Wheat,	none	—	0 0 0	0 0 0	—	0 0 0
Beans,	none	—	0 0 0	0 0 0	—	0 0 0
Pease,	none	—	0 0 0	0 0 0	—	0 0 0
Potatoes,	91	10	0 8 0	4 0 0	918	367 4 0
Flax,	none	—	0 0 0	0 0 0	—	0 0 0
Turnips,	15	—	0 0 0	5 0 0	—	75 0 0
		STONES.	PER ST.		STONES.	
Meadow hay, or natural grafs,	30	100	0 0 4	1 13 4	3000	50 0 0
Sown grafs,	45	200	0 0 6	6 13 4	9000	225 0 0
Straw at 6 d. per boll of corn,						402 1 0
Pasture at L. 1 per horse; 15 s. per cow; and 3 s. per sheep,						1339 12 0
Profit from hogs,						50 0 0
Annual produce of Gardens,						60 0 0
Orchards, none,						0 0 0
Woods and Plantations, none,						0 0 0
Total value of agricultural produce,					L.	8026 1 0
Annual produce of fisheries in the Parish of Thurso,						2100 0 0
Kelp,						25 0 0
Mines, none,						0 0 0
Total Value of Annual Produce, L.						10751 1 0

Obfer.

Observations on the preceding Tables.

It is evident, that the quantity of stock, the amount of annual produce, and the value of each, are articles liable to perpetual fluctuation. But though minute accuracy cannot be expected, yet it is extremely desirable, to have some general ideas of such important particulars; and when the calculations are grounded on sufficient data, and relate to an extensive district, (a county for example), the average result will probably be very near the truth, the errors of the subdivisions in the district, balancing each other.

It appears from the table of annual produce, that there are in the parish of Thurso, about 4,000 acres of arable land, and that the value of live-stock is 9,144, or about L. 2 : 5 : 6 *per* acre. But as part of that stock is pastured upon commons, the whole produce of the cultivated land will not exceed L. 8000, or about L. 2 *per* acre. It also appears, that the total produce of the land, amounts to about L. 8,626. The land-rent is stated at L. 4,714 : 5 : 6; which multiplied by 5, would amount to L. 8,570. It is evident therefore, that the produce is equal to more than 5 rents, which must always be the case, where farms are small, and where the produce *per* acre is inconsiderable.

APPENDIX,

APPENDIX, No. III.

On the celebrated draught of Salmon in the River Thurso.

IN the preceding Statistical Account, Chap. II. Sect. I. mention was made of the celebrated draught of salmon in the river of Thurso, when no less a number than 2560 were caught. That circumstance has been often mentioned, but seemed incredible to many, who were not acquainted with the circumstances attending that event. With a view of having the fact ascertained, the following certificate was given by three persons, who witnessed the transaction, and are of unquestioned veracity.

"We, George Paterson, now bailie of Thurso, George Swanson, shoemaker there, and Donald Finlayson senior, fisher there, do hereby certify and declare, That upon the 23d day of July, Old Style, we think in the year 1743, or 1744, there were caught, at one haul, in the Cruive Pool, upon the water above the town of Thurso, *two thousand five hundred and sixty salmon*. These fish were caught by a large net, beginning the sweep at the cruives, and coming down the stream to a stem at the low end of the pool. The net was carried down the water by from 18 to 20 men, with long poles in their hands, keeping down the ground rope, and the fish were afterwards taken ashore, by degrees, in a smaller net. Each man got a fish and some whisky for his trouble. We farther certify and declare, That we were personally present when these fish were caught.

GEO. PATERSON.

GEORGE SWANSON.

his
DONALD D + F FINLAYSON.
mark.Thurso,
23d Aug. 1792.

Vol. XX. 4 A APPENDIX.

APPENDIX, No. IV.

Observations on Scrabster Road, or Thurso Bay.

THE following observations, drawn up by persons of great intelligence in the sea-faring line, and of much experience in the navigation of the neighbourhood of Thurso, are particularly recommended to the attention of those, who navigate vessels in the northern seas, by adverting to which, many vessels may be saved from destruction,

OBSERVATIONS on Scrabster Road, or Thurso Bay, near the Pentland Frith, in Scotland, particularly recommended to the attention of Vessels in the Baltic, Dutch, or Hamburgh trades, sailing from Ireland or the western coasts of Scotland or England.

Since Mr Murdoch Mackenzie has navigated and surveyed the Pentland Frith, it is found by experience, to be the safest and best channel to sail through, from the Western Islands of Scotland to the German Ocean, or the reverse; and at present the greatest part of the ships from Liverpool, Whitehaven, Ireland, Solway Frith, and Frith of Clyde, in the Baltic, Dutch, and Hamburgh trades, frequently pass and repass through that Frith.

Mr Mackenzie has surveyed, with great accuracy and exactness, the coast of Orkney, and given proper directions for sailing into the different harbours there; but he has neglected to take notice of Scrabster Road or Thurso Bay, on the coast of Caithness, and this shameful negligence, of late years, has been attended with the most fatal consequences, by the loss of many valuable lives, ships, and cargoes, betwixt Dunnet Head and Cape Wrath, (about 20 leagues distant from each other); for when ships are caught with a hard gale of wind from N. N. W. to N. N. E. the commanders, knowing of no place of safety from the main land, are at last reduced to the necessity of running the ship ashore, to save, if possible, the lives of the crew.

From a love to mankind, and the good of commerce, Sir John Sinclair of Ulbster, Baronet, desired us William Innes, shipmaster in Thurso, and John Dunnet, shipmaster there, and Branch Pilot, from the Trinity House of Newcastle upon Tyne, to sound, survey, and give proper directions, for anchoring in Scrabster Road or Thurso Bay. As the knowledge of this place

place is of the utmost importance to commerce, we obeyed with all the attention and accuracy in our power, Sir John's orders, and have annexed the following directions to sailors.

From Dunnet Head to Holburn Head, sailing up the Bay to Scrabster Road, the course is W. S. W. distance 8 miles. Holburn Head shore is quite clean, and about 14 fathoms deep within half a cable's length of the shore.

From Holburn Head, to a low green point commonly called the Little Head, the course is S. W. a little more than a quarter of a mile distant. After passing the Little Head, you will observe, on the starboard hand, a large house, with three chimney tops.

The proper anchoring place for large ships, is by keeping the above-mentioned house of Holburn Head above the land, and to bear N. by W. to keep Holburn Head on the point of the Little Head, the House of Scrabster bearing W. by S. and the east end of the town of Thurso S. by E. There you may anchor in six fathom, good ground, two cable's length from the shore.

But small craft are to shut in Holburn Head on the Little Head, and to come so near the shore, as only to see the chimney head of the above house, where they may anchor in 4 fathom water, and moor to rings fixed in the rocks, where they ride in great safety with winter storms. The shore is steep on both sides, and no invisible rocks in Thurso Bay; and any rock grounds which exist, are no ways dangerous to shipping, as there are no less than 7 fathom water on them at low spring-tides; but with strong gales of wind at N. and N. N. W. the sea breaks on them. They lie E. from Holburn Head near two miles, and Dunnet Head bears from them E. by N. 2 leagues; Hoy Head N. N. E. 10 leagues; the town of Thurso S. W. by S. 3 miles; but in running for Scrabster Road, with hard gales of wind from N. and N. N. W. the Holburn Head shore should be kept close on board, and to anchor with the wind off shore where the small craft are directed; but after going a sweep of cable, to moor to the S. E. agreeable to the directions given to large ships.

N. B. The above bearings are laid down by the common magnetic compass, and pilots may be expected either from Thurso or Scrabster, in hard gales of wind. At the town of Thurso also, vessels may be supplied with provisions and other articles they may stand in need of, at reasonable rates.

APPENDIX, No. V.

On the Northern Light-houses.

IT being a material question to the navigation of the northern parts of Scotland, to have light houses erected in the fittest places, it was thought proper to preserve, the following observations, by Captain John Dunnet upon that interesting subject, transmitted in a letter to the Author, in December 1792.

"I beg leave to lay before you, the following piece of information, as to the northern light-houses. I have sailed from Thurso, in the county of Caithness, upwards of 25 years, and almost the whole of the above period, I have had the command of a vessel. By which means, it may be reasonably supposed, that I have obtained a complete knowledge of the navigation of the Pentland Frith, setting and velocity of the tides, &c. &c. I have it from undoubted authority, that a light house is to be erected at the entrance of the Pentland Frith, either on the largest Pentland Skerry, near the coast of Orkney, or on Duncansbay Head, on the coast of Caithness. This light-house, if built in a proper place, must prove highly beneficial to the numerous vessels that pass and repass through this well frequented channel.

I am likewise informed, that the Pentland Skerry is the place pointed out by several gentlemen, as the most proper spot to build the light house upon, which surprises me not a little, as, in my opinion, a light house built on the Skerry, might be productive of bad consequences to strangers, and of no real advantage to those who are well acquainted with the navigation of the Pentland Frith. For this I give the following reasons:

1st, The only foul or rocky ground in the entrance of the Frith, lies to the eastward of the Skerries. A stranger, running for the Skerry light, if it should happen to be obscured by mist or otherwise, may be a ground on the rocks before he is aware of his danger. 2d, If the master of a ship, with a clear night, should run to make the Skerry light, and makes the light, bearing W. N. W. by the compass 3 leagues or 9 miles distant, and the tide of ebb running, if the ship should happen to be becalmed, she runs a great risk of being carried on the Skerry, or the rocky ground adjacent, by the velocity of the tide, which runs 9 knots or 9 miles an hour in spring-tides. 3d. Amitting that the above mentioned ship should get clear of the rocky ground with the tide of ebb, and is carried by it as far as the N. E. point of the island of Swinna, if she happens to meet the tide of flood, the calm continuing, she must inevitably be hawled on the Skerries, as the tide runs exactly in that direction.

More objections might be pointed out against placing a light house on the Skerry. But as I have been already tedious, I shall now go on to make my remarks on the great advantages that shipping must derive, by having a light house on Duncansbay Head, as follows :

1st, Nofs Head, on the coast of Caithness, has such a near resemblance of Duncansbay Head, that shipmasters, standing in for the land, particularly in evenings, or in foggy weather, have been so fatally deceived, that after passing Nofs Head, they have altered their course, and, supposing themselves to be in the Pentland Frith, have never discovered their mistake, until they have found themselves imbayed or fast a-ground in the Bay of Keefs, called by sailors Sinclair's Bay. This capital mistake would be effectually removed, by a light on Duncansbay Head, which bears by the compass N. E. by N. from Nofs Head about 11 miles distant. 2d, Duncansbay Head is bold and clean. No out-lying rocks on the coast. If the light should be obscured by fog or otherwise, if a shipmaster should be within a cable's length of the light before he perceives it, he is in no danger if it should prove little wind and an ebb tide, it will carry the ship in the proper fair way betwixt Stroma and Swinna ; and if the ship be caught with the tide of flood, while becalmed, there will be no danger of the ship being carried by the velocity of the tide on the Skerries, or any rocky ground whatever. 3d, A shipmaster, making the light on Duncansbay Head with a clear night, 10, 6, or 4 miles distant, but finds the tide of ebb running, and is unwilling to be carried through the Pentland Frith in the night-time, he has it in his power to keep the ship in slack tide, by standing into the shore, until he brings the light to bear N. N. E. and off, till it bears N. N. W. The wind must be supposed to be from the south and west quarter ;

quarter; here he is in no danger of being carried through the Frith, as the tide does not run with one-third of the velocity as it does off the Skerries. A great deal more might be said on this subject, with directions to strangers in the management of their ships with the winds in different arts, in the Pentland Frith and the entrance of it. But I must conclude, leaving you to make any use of this letter that you please; and if it should be made public, I flatter myself that those who are best acquainted, and has most experience of this navigation, will coincide with me in opinion."

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* This Alphabetical List was drawn up by the late worthy Mr David
Ure, minister of Uphall, who, in various respects, contributed his assistance
to this work.

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906	Uig	Lewis	Ross	XIX. 9	280
907	Uist (North)	Uist	Inverness	XIII. 21	300
908	Uist (South)	Uist	Inverness	XIII. 20	292
909	Unst	Shetland	Orkney	V. 12	182
910	Uphall	Linlithgow	Linlithgow	VI. 54	543
911	Urquhart	Elgin	Elgin	XV. 5	93
912	Urquhart	Abertarf	Inverness	XX. 16	297
913	Urquhart	Dingwall	Ross	V. 13	203
914	Urr	Dumfries	Kirkcudbright	XI. 4	61
915	Urray	Dingwall	Ross & Inverness	VII. 23	245

W

916	Walls	Cairnton	Orkney & Shetl.	XVII. 22	312
917	Walls	Shetland	Orkney & Shetl.	XX. 4	97
918	Walton	Biggar	Lanark	VII. 8	116
919	Wamphray	Lochmaben	Dumfries	XII. 41	602
920	Wattin	Caithness	Caithness	XI. 19	259
921	Weem	Perth	Perth	XII. 12	130
922	Wemyss	Kirkaldy	Fife	XVI. 26	513
923	Westerkirk	Langholm	Dumfries	XI. 44	514
924	Westray	North Isles	Orkney	XVI. 14	251
925	Westruther	Lauder	Berwick	VII. 7	109
926	Whiteburn	Linlithgow	Linlithgow	XVII. 20	298
927	Whitekirk	Dunbar	Haddington	XVII. 42	574
928	Whithorn	Wigton	Wigton	XVI. 16	275
929	Whitfom	Chirnside	Berwick	XVI. 19	348
930	Whittingham	Dunbar	Haddington	II. 28	345
931	Wick	Caithness	Caithness	X. 1	1
932	Wigton	Wigton	Wigton	XIV. 28	470
933	Wilton	Jedburgh	Roxburgh	{ II. 33 XV. App.	394 641
934	Wistoun	Lanark	Lanark	VI. 34	306

Y

935	Yarrow	Selkirk	Selkirk	VII. 48	500
936	Yell (Mid & S.)	Shetland	Orkney	II. 50	565
937	Yester	Haddington	Haddington	I. 36	342
938	Yetholm	Kelso	Roxburgh	XIX. 30	609

LIST of Parishes suppressed, annexed to other Parishes, or which have changed their names, with a corresponding List of the Parishes under which they are now included *.

Parishes suppressed,
&c.

Parishes under
which now
included.

Parishes suppressed,
&c.

Parishes under
which now
included.

A

Abbey of Paisley	Paisley
Abbotrule	Southdean
Aberchirder	Marnoch
Abercrombie	St Monance
Abertarf	Boleskine
Aberuthven	Auchterarder
Aithsting	Sandsting
Alafuden	Lessuden

Aloa	Air
Altyre	Rafford
Appin	Lismore
Ardestie	Monyfeith
Arncliffe	Duirinish
Ashshenefs	Northmavea
Auldham	Whitekirk

B

Bara or Baro	Garvald
Barivan	Calder
Barony	Glasgow
Beenie	Boindie
Benbecula	Uist (South)
Benvie	Liff
Bervie	Inverbervie
Berwick (North)	North Berwick
Birsay	Harray

Blairanaonick	Fodderty
Borthwick	Wilton
Botarie	Cairnie
Brachlie	Petty
Braemar	Crathy
Burnefs	Cross
Burra	Bressay
Burray	Ronaldsay (South)

C

* When reference is made to a parish of which there are more than one of the same name, the number of the parish referred to in the foregoing Alphabetical List is added, for the sake of distinction.

Parishes suppressed, &c.	Parishes under which now included.	Parishes suppressed, &c.	Parishes under which now included.
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C

Calder (East)	Kirknewton	Coldstone	Logie Coldstone
Calmonell	Colmonell	Coll	Tiry
Cambray	Cimbraes	Colonsay	Jura
Cambusmichael	St Martins	Comber	Kiltarlity
Cannay	Small Isles	Conveth	Kiltarlity
Cara	Gigha	Conveth	Laurencekirk
Careston	Carraldstone	Corrie	Hutton, 443
Carruthers	Middlebie	Crosbie	Monktoun
Caskieben	Keith-hall	Coygach	Lochbroom
Caterline	Kinneff	Crossabill	Cross
Chesters	Southdean	Crugleton	Sorbie
Christ Church	Kilmuir, 518	Culbenschurgh	Bressay
Clachandysart	Glenorchy	Cullein	Kirkoswald
Clashank	Stonykirk	Cullicudden	Kirkmichael, 573
Clerkington	Temple	Cuningsburgh	Dunrossness
Clova	Cortachy		

D

Dacus	Croy	Down	Kilmadock
Dalarossie	Moy	Dow	Dull
Dalavich	Kilchrenan	Dowally	Dunkeld
Dalcrofs	Croy	Dundurcos	Boharm & Rothes
Dalgane	Sorn	Dungree	{ Johnston and
Dalgerno	Clofeburn		{ Kirkpat. Juxta
Dallightie	Daviot	Dunipace	Larbert
Dawick	{ Drumelzier and	Dunlappie	Strickathrow
	{ Stobo	Dunlichty	Daviot, 235
Deerneys	St Andrews, 803	Dunrod	Kirkcudbright
Dipple	Speymouth	Dunwoodie	Applegirth
Disdeer	Durisdeer	Dupplin	Aberdalgie
Dores	Durris		

E

East Calder	Kirknewton	East Monkland	Monkland (New)
East Kilpatrick	Kilpatrick (New)	Easter Lenzie	Cumbernauld
			Ebdie

Parishes suppressed, &c.

Parishes under which now included.

Parishes suppressed, &c.

Parishes under which now included.

Ebdie

Ecclefechan

Ecclesgreig

Eday

Egg

Eglisay

Elamund

Abdie

Hoddam

St Cyrus

Stronsay

Small Isles

Ronsay

Kilmanivaig

Elanamuck

Elanfinan

Elchies

Elith

Effie

Efil

Small Isles

Ardnamurchan

Knockadow

Alyth

Rhynie

Speymouth

F

Fair Isle

Faray or Fafa

Farnwell

Ferrintosh

Ferrytoun

Fetterangus

Flota

Dunroffness

Walls, 916

Fernell

Urquhart, 913

Kirkmabreck

Gask

Walls, 916

Footdie

Forcastle

Forkerton

Foschapple

Foula

Fowlis (Easter)

Fishick

Aberdeen (New)

Dull

Stonykirk

Dull

Walls, 917

Lundie

Hutton, 442

G

Gairntully

Galway or Gala

Garioch

Garrell

Geddes

Gelston

Gilchrist

Ginglekirk

Glenaray

Glenconwoth

Glendaruell

Glengairn

Dull

Kirkcudbright

Chapel Garioch

Kirkmichael, 569

Auldearn

Kelton

Urray

Channelkirk

Inveraray

Kiltarlity

Kilmadan

Glenmuick

Glenluce

Glenmoriston

Glenprossen

Glentanner

Glentrathen

Glupe

Gogar

Gorbals

Græmfay

Gulane

Luce Old

Urquhart, 912

Kirrymuir

Aboyne

Lintrathen

Yell

Gorstonphine, Ratho, and Kirkliston

Glasgow

Hoy

Dirleton

H

Hales

Hamnavoe

Hastendean

Hillswick

Collington

Yell

Roberton

Northmaven

Hilton

Holyroodhouse

Home

Whitfome

Canongate

Stitchill

Parishes suppressed, &c.

Parishes under which now included.

Parishes suppressed, &c.

Parishes under which now included.

I

Inch
Inchaffray
Inchbreke
Inchcallioch
Inchmartine

Kingussie
Maderty
Craig
Buchanan
Errol

Inishail
Innerallan
Innergowrie
Irongray

Glenorchy
Cromdale
Liff
Kirkpatrick Iron-
gray

K

Kailzie

{ Traquair, Inner-
leithen, and
Peebles

Keanlochew

Gairloch

Kearn

Forbes

Keith

Humbie

Kilberry

Kilcalmonell

Kilbride

Kilmore

Kilchattan

Kilbrandon

Kilchenzie

Killeen

Kilchonan

Fortingall

Kilgower

Falkland

Kilcholumkill

Morven

Killallan

Houstoun

Killeen

Kilninian

Killichrist

Kilmuir, 518

Killinavaig

Morven

Killinewar

Glassary

Killispick

Ardchattan

Killswick

Northmaven

Kilmaglass

Kilmorie

Kilmalen

Inveraray

Kilmaveonack

Blair Atholl

Kilmelfort

Kilninver

Kilmeny

Killarow

Kilmore

Kilninian

Kilmorick

Kilmun

Kilviceuen

Kinbettoch

Kincardine

Kindrocht

Kinkell

Kinkell

Kinloch

Kinnaird

Kinnedar

Kinneil

Kirkabill

Kirkanders

Kirkchrist

Kirkconnel

Kirkconnel

Kirkcormack

Kirkcowan

Kirkcubre

Kirkdale

Kirkinner

Kirkmadryne

Kirkmaiden

Lochgoilhead

Dunoon

Kilfinichen

Towie

Abernethy, 21

Crathy

Keith-hall

Trinity Gask

Campbeltoun

Fernell

Drainie

Borrowstounness

Tongue

Borgue

Twynholm

{ Kirkpatrick Flee-
ming

Sanquhar

Kelton

Kirkowen

Ballintrae

Kirkmabreck

Buittle

Sorbie

Glassertoun

L

Parishes suppressed,
&c.Parishes under
which now
included.Parishes suppressed,
&c.Parishes under
which now
included.

L

Ladykirk
Ladykirk
Ladymarykirk
Lardeif
Lhanbryd
Lindean
Little Dunkeld
Loch-head
Logie Allachie

Monktoun
Ronaldsay (South)
Ladykirk
Kinloch
St Andrews, 804
Galashiels
Dunkeld (Little)
Campbeltoun
Dunkeld (Little)

Logie Almond
Logie Wester
Logiebride
Luncarty
Longcastle
Lude
Lunesting
Lufs

Monzie
Urquhart, 913
Auchtergaven
Redgorton
Kirkinner
Blair Atholl
Nestling
Hoddam

M

Macallan
Machar (Old)
Martin
Megget
Methie
Migvie
Monkeigie
Monyburgh
Mouline

Knockandow
Aberdeen (Old)
Cairnie
Lyne
Inverarity
Tarland
Keith-hall
Kilsyth
Johnston

Moy
Muck
Muckairn
Muckarfie
Muirfoot
Muirreith
Murroes
Musselburgh

Dyke
Small Isles
Ardchattan
Forteviot
Temple
Glasserton
Muirhouse
Inveresk

N

Navar
Nevay
Newmills

Lethnot
Effie
Loudoun

Nicolson
Northkirk
Northrew

Temple
Yell
Northmaven

O

Ogston
Oldbar
Ollaberry

Drainie
Aberlemno
Northmaven

Olnafirth
Orr
Overbervie

Delting
Urr
Glenbervie

P

Paldie
Papaſtour

Fordoun
Walls, 917

Papa-Westray
Parton-craig

Westray
Ferry-port-on-craig
Peirstoun

Parishes suppressed, &c.	Parishes under which now included.	Parishes suppressed, &c.	Parishes under which now included.
Peirstoun	Dreghorn	Port-Glasgow	Glasgow (New Port)
Pennershaugh	Middlebie	Prestick	
Penngowan	Torosay	Preston	
Pert	Logie, 641	Primrose	
Pitcairn	Dull		Monktoun
			Bonkle
			Carrington
Q			
Quarff	Bressay	Quothquan	Libberton
R			
Rait	Kilspindie	Robertoun	Whistoun
Rafyth	Inverkeithing	Ronaldsay (North)	Crofs
Redkirk	Graitney	Rofs	Kilfinichen
Refirth	Yell	Rossie	Inchtur
Rendal	Evie	Rothiemurehus	Duthil
Restalrig	Leith (South)	Ruthven	Cairnie
S			
St Boswells	Lessuden	Shillingkirk	Channelkirk
St Bothans	Yester	Sibbaldie	Applegirth
St John's Kirk	Covington	Simprin	Swinton
St Johnstoun	Perth	Skerries	Nesting
St Kybutts	St Quivox	Skipness	Saddel
St Laurence	Slamanan	Skirduston	Aberlour
St Laurence Kirk	Laurencekirk	Scrabie	Tiry
St Leonards	St Andrews, 800	Southwick	Colvend
St Michaels	Linlithgow	Soutra	Fala
St Michaels	Inveresk	Staplegordon	Langholm
St Olla	Kirkwall	Stonness	Frith
St Peter's	Ronaldsay (South)	Stephenskirk	Stonykirk
St Philips	Forgan	Stralachlan	Strachur
St Serf	Redgorton	Strathaven	Avendale
Salvator	Fala	Strathphillan	Killin
Sandness	Walls, 917	Strowan	Blair Atholl
Sandwick	Stromness	Strowan	Monivaird
Sandwick	Dunroffness	Sudan	Southdean
Scarba	Colonsay	Suddy	Kilmuir (Wester)
Sennick	Borgue		

Parishes suppressed, &c.	Parishes under which now included.	Parishes suppressed, &c.	Parishes under which now included.
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T

Tarbat	Arroquhar	Trailflat	Tinwald
Tarntie	Trinity Gask	Trista	Fetlar
Tarrell	Kirkmichael, 569	Tullich	Glenmuick
Thankertoun	Covington	Tulliebole	Foffoway
Tillibody	Alloa	Tynninghame	Whitekirk

U

Unthank	Duffus
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W

Waternish	Diurnish	Whallay	Nesting
Wauchop	Langholm	Whiteness	Tingwall
Weisdale	Tingwall	Woolston	Wistoun
Wester-Lenzie	Kirkintilloch		

Y

Yell (North)	Fetlar
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TABLE

TABLE of the POPULATION of SCOTLAND, by
Counties and Parishes, as it stood in 1755, and
in 1790——1798 *.

COUNTY OF ABERDEEN.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Aberdeen, Old, } or Old Machar }	4945	8107	3162	—
Aberdeen, New, } including Foot- } die, or Fittie }	10785	16120	5335	—
Aberdour	1397	1306	—	91
Aboyne	1695	1050	—	645
5 Alford	990	663	—	327
Auchindore	839	590	—	249
Auchterless	1264	1264	—	—
Belhelvie	1471	1318	—	153
Birse	1126	1300	174	—
Vol. XX.		4 F		10 Bourty

* Although, in some instances, the same parish lies in two or three different counties, it was judged expedient, in the following Table, to state the total population of all parishes in that situation under only one of the counties to which they respectively belong, as no distinction was made in the returns. It is also to be observed, that where the population of parishes in the following Table differs from that in the Statistical Returns, it was occasioned by corrected statements of the number of inhabitants having been received subsequent to the publication of the account of each such parish.

	Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease
10	Bourty	525	456	—	69
	Cabrach	960	700	—	260
	Cairny	2690	2600	—	90
	Chapel of Garioch	1351	1035	—	316
	Clatt	559	425	—	134
15	Clunie	994	885	—	109
	Coldstone, Logie	1243	1132	—	61
	Coul	751	766	—	15
	Crathie & Braemarr	2671	2251	—	420
	Crimond	765	917	152	—
20	Cruden	2549	2028	—	521
	Culsalmond	810	745	—	65
	Cushnie, now an- nexed to Leochel	—	—	—	—
	Daviot	975	950	—	25
	Deer, New	2313	2800	487	—
25	Deer, Old	2813	3267	454	—
	Drumblade	1125	886	—	239
	Drumoak	760	692	—	68
	Dyce	383	352	—	31
	Echt	1277	963	—	314
30	Ellon	2523	1830	—	693
	Fintray	905	851	—	54
	Forbes	456	370	—	86
	Forgue	1802	1778	—	24
	Foveran	1981	1230	—	751
35	Frazerburgh	1682	2060	378	—
	Fyvie	2528	2194	—	334
	Gartley	1328	1800	472	—
	Glas	1093	776	—	317
	Glenbucket	430	449	19	—
40	Glenmuick, &c.	2270	2117	—	153
	Huntly	1900	3600	1700	—
	Inch	995	900	—	95
	Inverury	730	732	2	—
	Keig	499	475	—	24

County of Aberdeen.

589

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
45 Keith-hall	1111	838	—	273
Kemnay	643	611	—	32
Kildrummie	562	426	—	136
Kincardine O'Niel	1706	2075	369	—
King Edward	1352	1577	225	—
50 Kinnellar	398	342	—	56
Kinnethmont	791	830	39	—
Kintore	973	812	—	161
Leochel, inclu- ding Cushmanie }	1286	642	—	644
Leslie	319	418	99	—
55 Logie Buchan	575	509	—	66
Longside	1979	1792	—	187
Lonmay	1674	1650	—	24
Lumphanan	682	621	—	61
Machar, New	1191	1030	—	161
60 Meldrum, Old	1603	1490	—	113
Methlick	1385	1035	—	350
Midmar	979	945	—	34
Montquhitter	997	1500	503	—
Monymusk	1005	1130	125	—
65 Newhills	959	1181	222	—
Oyne	643	630	—	13
Peterculter	755	1002	247	—
Peterhead	2487	4100	1613	—
Pitlligo	1224	1300	76	—
70 Premnay	448	450	2	—
Rathen	1527	1730	203	—
Rayne	1131	1173	42	—
Rhynie and Effey	836	681	—	155
Skene	1251	1233	—	18
75 Slains	1286	1117	—	169
Strathdon	1750	1524	—	226
Strichen	1158	1400	242	—
Tarland	1300	1050	—	250
Tarvas	2346	1690	—	656

80 Tillynefsle

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
80 Tillynefsle	335	412	77	—
Tough	570	560	—	10
Towie	656	550	—	106
Turreff	1897	2029	132	—
Tyrie	596	949	353	—
85 Udney	1322	1137	—	185
Total,	116,836	122,921	16,904	10,819
		116,836	10,819	
	Increase,	6085	6085	

COUNTY

COUNTY OF AIR.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Air	2964	4647	1683	—
Ardrossan	1297	1518	221	—
Auchinleck	887	775	—	112
Ballantrae	1049	770	—	279
Barr	858	750	—	108
5 Beith	2064	2872	808	—
Cimbraes	259	509	250	—
Colmonell	1814	1100	—	714
Coylton	527	667	140	—
Craigie	551	700	149	—
10 Cumnock, New	1497	1200	—	297
Cumnock, Old	1336	1632	296	—
Dailly	839	1607	768	—
Dalmellington	739	681	—	58
Dalry	1498	2000	502	—
15 Dalrymple	439	380	—	59
Dreghorn	887	830	—	57
Dundonald	983	1317	334	—
Dunlop	796	779	—	17
Fenwick	1113	1281	168	—
20 Galston	1013	1577	564	—
Girvan	1193	1725	532	—
Irvine	4025	4500	475	—
Kilbirny	651	700	49	—
Kilbride, West	885	698	—	187
25 Kilmarnock	4403	6776	2373	—
Kilmaurs	1094	1147	53	—
Kilwinning	2541	2360	—	181
Kirkmichael	710	956	246	—
Kirkoswald	1168	1335	167	—
30 Largs	1164	1025	—	139
Loudoun	1494	2308	814	—
Mauchline	1169	1800	631	—
Maybole	2058	3750	1692	—

Monkton

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
Monkton	582	717	135	—
35 Muirkirk	745	1100	355	—
Newtown on Air	581	1689	1108	—
Ochiltree	1210	1150	—	60
Riccartoun	745	1300	555	—
St Quivox	499	1450	951	—
40 Sorn	1494	2779	1285	—
Stair	369	518	149	—
Stevenstoun	1412	2425	1013	—
Stewartoun	2819	3000	181	—
Straitoun	1123	934	—	189
45 Symonton	359	610	251	—
Tarbolton	1365	1200	—	165
Total,		59,268	75,544	18,898
			59,268	2622
Increase,			16,276	16,276

COUNTY

COUNTY OF ARGYLE.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
3 Ardchattan	2195	2400	205	—
Ardnamurchan	5000	4542	—	458
Campbelltown	4597	8700	4103	—
Craignish	769	770	1	—
Dunoon	1757	1683	—	74
5 Glaffary	2751	2568	—	183
Glenorchy	1654	1869	215	—
Inveraray	2751	1832	—	919
Inverchaolin	944	504	—	440
Kilbrandon	1492	2060	568	—
10 Kilcalmonell	1925	2448	523	—
Kilchrenan	1030	1124	94	—
Kilfinan	1793	1417	—	376
Killean	2391	1911	—	480
Kilmadan	806	351	—	455
15 Kilmartin	1150	1537	387	—
Kilmore	1200	1886	686	—
Kilninver	1045	1178	133	—
Knapdale, North	1369	1009	—	360
Knapdale, South	1292	1524	232	—
20 Lismore	2812	3526	714	—
Lochgoylhead	1505	1012	—	493
Morven	1223	1764	541	—
Saddel	1369	1341	—	28
Southend	1391	1300	—	91
25 Strachur	1193	1061	—	132
Total of the con- tinental part of Argyleshire }	47,404	51,317	8402	4489

ARGYLESKIRE

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
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ARGYLESHIRE ISLANDS.

Mull	{	Torofay	1012	1733	721	—
		Kilfinichen	1685	3002	1317	—
		Kilninian	2590	3281	691	—
30 Islay	{	Kilarow	5344	9500	4156	—
		Kilchoman				
		Kildalton				
Jura and Colonsay, &c.			1097	1858	761	—
Coll and Tirry			2702	3457	755	—
Gigha and Cara			514	614	100	—
35	Small Isles		943	1339	396	—
Total of Argyle- shire islands			15,887	24,784	8897	—
Total of the con- tinental part of Argyleshire			47,404	51,317	8401	4489
Total of the whole county			63,291	76,101	17,299	4489
				63,291	4489	
			Increase, 12,810		12,810	

COUNTY

COUNTY OF BANFF.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease
2 Aberlour	1010	920	—	90
Alva	1161	1070	—	91
Banff	3000	3510	510	—
Bellie	1730	1919	189	—
5 Boharm	835	1294	459	—
Botriphnie	953	630	—	323
Boyndie	994	1260	266	—
Cullen	900	1214	314	—
Deskford	940	752	—	188
10 Fordyce	3212	3425	213	—
Forglen	607	600	—	7
Gamrie	2083	3000	917	—
Grange	1797	1572	—	225
Inveraven	2464	2244	—	220
15 Inverkiethnie	571	460	—	111
Keith	2683	3057	374	—
Kirkmichael	1288	1276	—	12
Marnoch	1894	1960	66	—
Mortlich	2374	1918	—	456
20 Ordiquhill	666	517	—	149
Rathven	2898	3524	626	—
Rothiemay	1190	1125	—	65
23 St Fergus	1271	1240	—	31
	<u>36,521</u>	<u>38,487</u>	<u>3934</u>	<u>1968</u>
		<u>36,521</u>	<u>1968</u>	
		Increase, 1966	1966	

COUNTY OF BERWICK.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Abbey	80	164	84	—
Ayton	797	1245	448	—
Buncle	691	622	—	69
Channelkirk	531	600	69	—
5 Chirnside	383	961	578	—
Colbrandspath	919	883	—	36
Coldingham	2313	2391	78	—
Cranshaws	214	164	—	50
Dunse	2593	3324	731	—
10 Earlstoun	1197	1351	154	—
Eccles	1489	1780	291	—
Edrom	898	1336	438	—
Eymouth	792	1000	208	—
Fogo	566	450	—	116
15 Fouldean	465	344	—	121
Gordon	737	912	175	—
Greenlaw	895	1210	315	—
Home	959	1000	41	—
Hutton	751	920	169	—
20 Ladykirk	386	590	204	—
Langton	290	435	145	—
Lauder	1795	2000	205	—
Lennel	1493	2521	1028	—
Litgertwood	398	422	24	—
25 Longformacus	399	452	53	—
Mertoun	502	557	55	—
Mordington	181	335	154	—
Nenthorn	497	400	—	97
Polwarth	251	288	37	—
30 Swinton	494	898	404	—
Westruther	591	730	139	—
32 Whitfome	399	590	191	—
	24,946	30,875	6418	489
		24,946	489	
		Increase, 5929	5929	

COUNTY

COUNTY OF BUTE.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
Bute {	Rothsay	2222	4032	1810
	Kingarth	998	727	271
		<u>3220</u>	<u>4759</u>	<u>1810</u> 271
Arran {	Kilbride	1369	2545	1176
	Kilmorie	2277	3259	982
		<u>3646</u>	<u>5804</u>	<u>2158</u>
Total,	6866	10,563	3968	271
		<u>6866</u>	<u>271</u>	
	Increase,	3697	3697	

COUNTY OF CAITHNESS.

1 Bower	1287	1592	305	
Canisbay	1481	1950	469	
Dunnet	1235	1399	164	
Halkirk	3075	3180	105	
5 Latheron	3675	4006	331	
Olrick	875	1001	126	
Reay	2262	2298	36	
Thurso	2963	3146	183	
Wattin	1424	1230		194
10 Wick	3938	5000	1062	
	<u>22,215</u>	<u>24,802</u>	<u>2781</u>	<u>194</u>
		<u>22,215</u>	<u>194</u>	
	Increase,	2587	2587	

COUNTY

COUNTY OF CLACKMANNAN.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Alloa	5816	4802	—	1014
Clackmannan	1913	2528	615	—
Dollar	517	510	—	7
4 Tillicoultry	757	909	152	—
	<u>9003</u>	<u>8749</u>	<u>767</u>	<u>1021</u>
	8749			767
	<u>—</u>			<u>—</u>
	Decrease, 254			254

COUNTY OF GROMARTY.

1 Gromarty	2096	2184	88	—
Fodderty	1483	1739	247	—
3 Tarbat	1584	1370	—	214
	<u>5163</u>	<u>5284</u>	<u>335</u>	<u>214</u>
		5163	214	
		<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	
	Increase, 121		121	

COUNTY

COUNTY OF DUMFRIES.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Annan	1498	2500	1002	—
Applegirth	897	741	—	156
Caerlaverock	784	955	171	—
Cannobie	1733	2725	992	—
5 Closeburn	999	1490	491	—
Cummertrees	631	1056	425	—
Dalton	451	615	164	—
Dornock	716	738	22	—
Drysdale	1097	1600	503	—
10 Dumfries	4517	5600	1083	—
Dunscore	651	1033	382	—
Durrisdeer	1019	1031	12	—
Eskdalemuir	675	619	—	56
Ewes	392	320	—	72
15 Glencairn	1794	1700	—	94
Gratney	1051	1810	759	—
Hoddam	1393	1198	—	195
Hollywood	596	736	140	—
Hutton	993	583	—	410
20 Johnston	494	565	71	—
Keir	495	520	25	—
Kirkconnell	899	1000	101	—
Kirkmahoe	1098	1200	102	—
Kirkmichael	894	950	56	—
25 Kirkpatrick Fleming	1147	1542	395	—
Kirkpatrick Juxta	794	617	—	177
Langholm	1833	2582	749	—
Lochmaben	1395	3000	1605	—
Middlebie	991	1404	413	—
30 Moffat	1612	1600	—	12
Morton	435	908	473	—
Moufiewald	553	628	75	—
Penpont	838	800	—	38
Ruthwell	599	1061	462	—

County of Dumfries, &c.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
35 St Mungo	481	640	159	—
Sanquhar	1998	2600	602	—
Tinwald	795	850	55	—
Torthorwald	584	660	76	—
Tunnergarth	625	510	—	115
40 Tynron	464	500	36	—
Wamphray	458	487	29	—
42 Westerkirk	544	655	111	—
	41,913	52,329	11,741	1325
		41,913	1325	
	Increase,	10,416	10,416	

COUNTY OF DUNBARTON.

1 Arroquhar	466	379	—	87
Bonhill	901	2310	1409	—
Cardross	795	2194	1399	—
Cumbernauld	2303	1600	—	703
5 Dunbarton	1480	2003	523	—
Kilmaronock	1193	820	—	373
Kilpatrick, New	1390	1700	310	—
Kilpatrick, Old	1281	2452	1171	—
Kirkintilloch	1696	2639	943	—
10 Lufs	978	917	—	61
Roseneath	521	394	—	127
12 Row	853	1000	147	—
	13,857	18,408	5902	1351
		13,857	1351	
	Increase,	4551	4551	

COUNTY

COUNTY OF EDINBURGH.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Borthwick	910	858	—	52
Calder, West	1294	1289	—	5
Canongate	4500	6200	1700	—
Carrington	555	329	—	226
5 Cockpen	640	1123	483	—
Colingtown	792	1395	603	—
Corstorphine	995	1037	42	—
Cramond	1455	1485	30	—
Cranstoun	725	839	114	—
10 Grichton	611	900	289	—
Currie	1227	1300	73	—
Dalkeith	3110	4366	1256	—
Duddingston	989	910	—	79
Edinburgh	31,122	31,898	776	—
15 Fala	312	372	60	—
Glencrofs	557	385	—	172
Heriot	209	300	91	—
Inveresk	4645	5392	747	—
Kirknewton	1157	812	—	345
20 Laswade	2190	3000	810	—
Leith, North	2205	2409	204	—
Leith, South	7200	11,432	4232	—
Libbertoun	2793	3457	664	—
Midcalder	1369	1251	—	118
25 Newbottle	1439	1295	—	144
Newton	1199	1135	—	64
Pennycuick	890	1721	831	—
Ratho	930	825	—	105
St Cuthberts	12,193	32,947	20,754	—
30 Stow	1294	1400	106	—
31 Temple	905	593	—	312
	90,412	122,655	33,865	1622
		90,412	1622	
	Increase,	32,243	32,243	

COUNTY

COUNTY OF ELGIN.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Alves	1691	1111	—	580
Birnie	525	402	—	123
Dallas	700	888	188	—
Drainy	1174	1040	—	134
5 Duffus	1679	1800	121	—
Duthil	1785	1110	—	675
Dyke and Moy	1825	1529	—	297
Edinkeillie	1443	1800	357	—
Elgin	6306	4534	—	1772
10 Forres	1993	2987	994	—
Kinlofs	1191	1031	—	160
Knockandow	1267	1500	233	—
Rafford	1313	1072	—	241
Roths	1940	1500	—	440
15 St Andrews	1132	777	—	355
Speymouth	994	1347	353	—
Spynie	865	602	—	263
18 Urquhart	1110	1050	—	60
	<u>28,934</u>	<u>26,080</u>	<u>2246</u>	<u>5100</u>
	26,080			2246
	<u>Decrease,</u> 2854			<u>2854</u>

COUNTY OF FIFE.

1 Abbotshall	1348	2136	788	—
Abdie	822	494	—	328
Aberdour	1198	1280	82	—
Anstruther, Easter	1100	1000	—	100

Anstruther,

County of Fife:

603

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
5 Anstruther, Wester	385	370	—	15
Auchterderran	1143	1200	57	—
Auchtermuchty	1308	1439	131	—
Auchtertool	389	334	—	55
Ballingry	464	220	—	244
10 Balmerino	565	703	138	—
Beath	1099	450	—	649
Burntisland	1390	1210	—	180
Cameron	1295	1165	—	130
Carnbee	1293	1041	—	252
15 Carnock	583	970	387	—
Ceres	2540	2320	—	220
Coleffie	989	949	—	40
Crail	2173	1710	—	463
Creich	375	306	—	69
20 Cult	449	534	85	—
Cupar	2192	3702	1510	—
Dairfie	469	540	71	—
Dalgety	761	869	108	—
Denbog	255	235	—	20
25 Denino	598	383	—	215
Dunfermline	8552	9550	998	—
Dyfart	2367	4862	2495	—
Elie	642	620	—	22
Falkland	1795	2198	403	—
30 Ferrie	621	875	254	—
Flisk	318	331	13	—
Forgan	751	875	124	—
Inverkeithing	1694	2210	516	—
Kemback	420	588	168	—
35 Kennoway	1240	1500	260	—
Kettle	1621	1759	138	—
Kilconquhar	2131	2013	—	118
Kilmaney	781	869	88	—
Kilrenny	1348	1086	—	262
40 Kinghorn	2389	1768	—	621
Kinglassie	998	1200	202	—
Kingsbarns	871	807	—	64
Kirkaldy	2296	2673	377	—
Largo	1396	1913	517	—

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
45 Lesly	1130	1212	82	—
Leuchars	1691	1620	—	71
Logie	413	425	12	—
Markinch	2188	2790	602	—
Monimail	884	1101	217	—
50 Moonie	249	171	—	78
Newburgh	1347	1664	317	—
Newburn	438	456	18	—
Pittenweem	939	1157	218	—
St Andrew's and St } Leonard's }	4913	4335	—	578
55 St Monance	780	832	52	—
Saline	1285	950	—	335
Scoonie	1528	1675	147	—
Strathmiglo	1695	980	—	715
Torryburn	1635	1600	—	35
60 Wemyss	3041	3025	—	16
	<u>81,570</u>	<u>87,250</u>	<u>11,575</u>	<u>5895</u>
		<u>81,570</u>	<u>5895</u>	
		Increase, 5680	5680	

COUNTY OF FORFAR.

1 Aberbrothwick	2098	4676	2578	—
Aberlemno	943	1033	90	—
Airly	1013	865	—	148
Arbirlot	865	1055	190	—
5 Auchterhouse	600	600	—	—
Barry	689	796	107	—
Brechin	3181	5000	1819	—
Carmylie	745	700	—	45
Carraldstone	269	260	—	9
10 Cortachy	1233	1020	—	213
Craig	935	1314	379	—
Dun	657	500	—	157
Dundee	12,477	23,500	11,023	—
Dunnichen	653	872	219	—
15 Edzell	862	963	101	—
				Effie

County of Forfar.

605

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
Effie and Nevay	500	630	130	—
Fearn	500	490	—	10
Fernell	799	620	—	179
Forfar	2450	4756	2306	—
20 Glammis	1780	2040	260	—
Glenisla	1852	1018	—	834
Guthrie	584	571	—	13
Innerarity	996	929	—	67
Inverkeilor	1286	1747	461	—
25 Kettins	1475	1100	—	375
Kingoldrum	780	600	—	180
Kinnell	761	830	69	—
Kinnettles	616	621	5	—
Kirkden	585	727	142	—
30 Kirrymuir	3409	4358	949	—
Lentrathen	1165	900	—	265
Lethnot	635	505	—	130
Liff	1311	1790	479	—
Lochlee	686	608	—	78
35 Logie Pert	696	999	303	—
Lunan	208	291	83	—
Mains	709	878	169	—
Maryton	633	529	—	104
Menmuir	743	900	157	—
40 Moneikie	1345	1278	—	67
Monifeith	1421	1218	—	203
Montrose	4150	6194	2044	—
Muirhouse	623	462	—	161
Newtyle	913	594	—	319
45 Oathlaw	435	430	—	5
Panbride	1259	1460	201	—
Rescobie	798	934	136	—
Ruthven	280	220	—	60
St Vigeans	1592	3336	1744	—
50 Strathmartine	368	340	—	28
Strickathro	529	672	143	—
Tannadyce	1470	1470	—	—
53 Tealing	735	802	67	—
	68,297	91,001	26,354	3650
		68,297	3650	
	Increase,	22,704	22,704	

COUNTY

COUNTY OF HADDINGTON.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Aberlady	739	800	61	—
Athelstaneford	691	927	236	—
Bolton	359	235	—	124
Dirleton	1700	1200	—	500
5 Dunbar	3281	3700	419	—
Garvald	774	730	—	44
Gladsmuir	1415	1380	—	35
Haddington	3975	3915	—	60
Humbie	1570	676	—	894
10 Innerwick	941	960	19	—
Morham	245	190	—	55
Northberwick	1412	1300	—	112
Oldhamstocks	622	498	—	124
Ormiston	810	864	54	—
15 Pencaitland	910	1033	123	—
Prestonhaugh	1318	1176	—	142
Prestonpans	1596	2028	432	—
Salton	761	830	69	—
Spot	727	619	—	108
20 Stenton	631	624	—	7
Tranent	2459	2732	273	—
Whitekirk	968	994	26	—
Whittingham	714	655	—	59
24 Yester	1091	900	—	191
	29,709	28,966	1712	2455
	28,966			1712
	Decrease, 743			743

COUNTY OF INVERNESS.

1 Abernethy	1670	1769	99	—
Alvie	1021	1011	—	10
Arderfier	428	1298	870	—
Boleskine	1261	1741	—	220
5 Convetth or Kiltarlity	1964	2495	531	—
Crömdale	3063	3000	—	63
				Croy

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.	
Croy	1901	1552	—	349	
Daviot	2176	1697	—	479	
Durris	1520	1365	—	155	
10 Glenelg	1816	2746	930	—	
Inverness	9730	10,527	797	—	
Kilmanivaig	2995	2400	—	595	
Kilmalie	3093	4031	938	—	
Kilmorack	2830	2318	—	512	
15 Kingussie	1900	1983	83	—	
Kirkhill	1360	1570	210	—	
Laggan	1460	1512	52	—	
Moy	1693	1813	120	—	
Petty	1643	1518	—	125	
20 Urquhart	1943	2355	412	—	
Continental part	46,167	48,701	5042	2508	
ISLANDS.					
45 Sky	Bracadale	1907	2250	343	—
	Diurinish	2568	3000	432	—
	Kilmuir	1572	2065	493	—
	Portree	1385	1980	595	—
	Sleat	1250	1788	538	—
	Snizort	1627	1808	181	—
	Strath	943	1379	636	—
	11,252	14,470	3218	—	
Barray	1150	1604	454	—	
South Uist	2209	3450	1241	—	
30 North Uist	1909	3218	1309	—	
31 Harris	1969	2536	567	—	
Total islands	18,489	25,278	6789	—	
Total	64,656	73,979	11,831	2508	
		64,656	2508	—	
	Increase	9323	9323	—	

COUNTY OF KINCARDINE.

7 Arbuthnot	997	1041	44	—
Banchory Devenich	1495	1700	205	—
Banchory Ternan	1736	1340	—	396
Benholm	1367	1557	190	—
5 Bervie				

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease
5 Bervie	655	1200	545	—
Conveth	757	1200	443	—
Dunnotter	1570	1962	392	—
Durris	889	651	—	238
Fettercairn	1950	2000	50	—
10 Fetteressloe	3082	3370	288	—
Fordun	1890	2258	368	—
Garvock	755	460	—	295
Glenbervie	958	1307	349	—
Kinneff	858	1000	142	—
15 Maryculter	746	719	—	27
Marykirk	1285	1481	196	—
Nigg	1289	1090	—	199
St Cyrus	1271	1763	492	—
19 Strachan	796	700	—	96
	<u>24,346</u>	<u>26,799</u>	<u>3704</u>	<u>1251</u>
		<u>24,346</u>	<u>1251</u>	
		Increase, 2453	2453	

COUNTY OF KINROSS.

1 Cleish	692	653	—	39
Kinross	1310	1839	529	—
Orwell	1891	1705	—	186
4 Portmoak	996	1105	109	—
	<u>4889</u>	<u>5302</u>	<u>638</u>	<u>225</u>
		<u>4889</u>	<u>225</u>	
		Increase, 413	413	

COUNTY OF KIRKCUDBRIGHT.

1 Anwoth	531	495	—	36
Balmaclellan	534	495	—	39
Balmacghie	697	862	165	—
Borg	697	771	74	—
5 Buittle	899	855	—	44
Carfefairn	609	461	—	148
Colvend	898	964	66	—
Croismichael	613	772	159	—
Dalry	891	1100	209	—
10 Girthon	367	1730	1363	—

Irongray

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
Irongray	895	762	—	133
Kells	784	869	85	—
Kelton	811	1600	789	—
Kirkbean	529	660	131	—
15 Kirkcudbright	1513	2295	782	—
Kirkgunion	489	520	31	—
Kirkmabreck	858	1088	230	—
Kirkpatrick Durham	699	1000	301	—
Lochrutton	564	528	—	36
20 Minigaff	1209	1420	211	—
Newabbay	634	649	15	—
Orr	1193	1354	161	—
Parton	396	409	13	—
Rerwick	1051	1050	—	1
25 Terregles	397	510	113	—
Troqueer	1391	2600	1209	—
Tungland	537	520	—	17
28 Twynhame	519	620	101	—
	<u>21,205</u>	<u>26,959</u>	<u>6208</u>	<u>454</u>
		<u>21,205</u>	<u>454</u>	
		Increase, 5754	5754	

COUNTY OF LANARK.

1 Avendale	3551	3343	—	208
Biggar	1098	937	—	161
Blantyre	496	1040	544	—
Bothwell	1561	2707	1146	—
3 Cadder	2396	1767	—	629
Cambuslang	934	1288	354	—
Cambusnethan	1419	1684	265	—
Carluke	1459	1730	271	—
Carmichael	899	781	—	118
10 Carmunnock	471	570	99	—
Carnwath	2390	3000	610	—
Carstairs	845	924	79	—
Covington	521	484	—	37
Crawford	2009	1490	—	519
15 Crawford John	765	590	—	175
Culter	422	326	—	96
Dalserf	765	1100	335	—
Dalziel	351	478	127	—
Dolphington	302	200	—	102

20 Douglas

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
20 Douglas	2009	1715	—	294
Dunfyre	359	360	1	—
Glasford	559	788	229	—
Glasgow } Do Barony }	27,451	58,401	30,950	—
25 Gorbals } Govan }	4389	9066	4677	—
Hamilton	3815	5017	1202	—
Kilbride	2029	2359	330	—
Lamington	599	417	—	182
30 Lanark	2294	4751	2457	—
Lefmahago	3996	2810	—	1186
Libberton	738	750	12	—
Monkland, New	2713	3560	847	—
Monkland, Old	1813	4000	2187	—
35 Pettinain	330	386	56	—
Robertoun	1102	740	—	362
Rutherglen	988	1860	872	—
Shotts	2322	2041	—	281
Stonehouse	823	1060	237	—
40 Symington	264	307	43	—
41 Walfon	479	427	—	52
	<u>81,726</u>	<u>125,254</u>	<u>47,930</u>	<u>4402</u>
		<u>81,726</u>	<u>4402</u>	
	Increase,	43,528	43,528	

COUNTY OF LINLITHGOW.

1 Abercorn	1037	870	—	167
Bathgate	1594	2309	715	—
Borrowstounness	2668	3178	510	—
Carriden	1164	1450	286	—
5 Dalmeny	1103	907	—	196
Ecclesmachan	351	215	—	136
Kirklistoun	1461	1504	43	—
Linlithgow	3296	3221	—	75
Livingstone	598	420	—	178
10 Queensferry	451	505	54	—
Torphichen	1295	1069	—	226
Uphall	690	600	—	90
13 Whiteburn	1121	1322	201	—
	<u>16,829</u>	<u>17,570</u>	<u>1809</u>	<u>1068</u>
		<u>16,829</u>	<u>1068</u>	
	Increase,	741	741	

COUNTY

COUNTY OF NAIRN.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Ardclach	1163	1186	23	—
Auldearn	1951	1406	—	545
Calder	882	1062	180	—
4 Nairn	1698	2400	702	—
	<u>5694</u>	<u>6054</u>	<u>905</u>	<u>545</u>
		<u>5694</u>	<u>545</u>	
		Increase, 360	360	

COUNTY OF ORKNEY AND SHETLAND.

ORKNEY.

1 Crofs, Burnefs, &c.	1250	1389	139	—
Dearnfs and St Andrew's	1650	1335	—	315
Evie and Rendall	1798	1564	—	234
Firth and Stennefs	1108	1186	78	—
5 Harray and Birsay	2200	2013	—	187
Holm	1185	702	—	483
Hoy and Græmsay	520	410	—	110
Kirkwall	1989	2550	561	—
Ladykirk	750	803	53	—
10 Orphir	855	826	—	29
Roufsay and Eglifhay	978	1072	94	—
Shapinfhay	642	730	88	—
South Ronaldfhay, &c.	1996	1954	—	42
Stromnefs and Sandwick	2677	3012	335	—
15 Stronfsay and Eday	1493	887	—	606
Walls and Flota	1000	991	—	9
Westray and Papa Westray	1290	1629	339	—
Total, Orkney,	<u>23,381</u>	<u>23,053</u>	<u>1687</u>	<u>2015</u>

SHETLAND.

Breffay and Bursay	1098	1225	127	—
Delting	1221	1504	283	—
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Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease
20 Dunrossness	2295	3327	1032	—
Fitlar and North Yell	1098	1346	248	—
Lerwick	1193	1259	66	—
Nestling	1169	1535	366	—
Northmaving	1009	1786	777	—
25 Sandsting	911	1285	374	—
South and Mid Yell	986	1422	436	—
Tingwall	1412	1786	374	—
Unst	1368	1988	620	—
29 Walls and Sandness	1450	1723	273	—
Total, Shetland,	15,210	20,186	4976	—
Orkney,	23,381	23,053	1687	2015
Total,	38,591	43,239	6663	2015
		38,591	2015	—
		Increase,	4648	4648

COUNTY OF PEEBLES.

1 Broughton	367	264	—	103
Drumelzier	305	270	—	35
Eddlestown	679	710	31	—
Glenholm	392	300	—	92
5 Inverleithen	559	560	1	—
Kilbucho	279	362	83	—
Kirkurd	310	288	—	22
Linton	831	928	97	—
Lyne	265	160	—	105
10 Mannor	320	229	—	91
Newlands	1009	891	—	118
Peebles	1896	1920	24	—
Skirling	335	234	—	101
Stobo	313	318	5	—
15 Traquair	651	446	—	205
16 Tweedsmuir	397	227	—	170
	8908	8107	241	1042
	8107			241
Decrease,	801			801

COUNTY

COUNTY OF PERTH.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Aberdalgy	320	523	203	—
Aberfoil	895	790	—	105
Abernethy	1490	1415	—	75
Abernyste	258	345	87	—
5 Alyth	2680	2723	43	—
Arngask	736	554	—	182
Auchterarder	1194	1670	476	—
Auchtergaven	1677	1784	107	—
Balquhidder	1592	1300	—	292
10 Blackford	1681	1360	—	321
Blair Atholl	3257	3120	—	137
Blairgowrie	1596	1651	55	—
Bendothy	1293	878	—	415
Callander	1750	2100	350	—
15 Caputh	2048	2045	—	3
Cargill	1897	1720	—	177
Clunie	905	1037	132	—
Gollace	499	473	—	26
Comrie	2546	3000	454	—
20 Griefff	1414	2640	1226	—
Gulrofs	1695	1442	—	253
Cupar	1491	2076	585	—
Dron	598	450	—	148
Dull	5748	4676	—	1072
25 Dumbarnie	764	1250	486	—
Dumblane	2728	2750	22	—
Dunkeld	1298	1773	475	—
Dunkeld, Little	2919	2705	—	214
Dunning	1491	1600	109	—
30 Errol	2219	2685	466	—
Forgandenny	1295	978	—	317
Forteviot	1164	970	—	194
Fortingal	3859	3914	55	—
Foffoway	1765	1505	—	260
35 Foulis, Wester	1706	1224	—	482
Foulis, Easter	586	648	62	—
				Gask

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
Gask	385	486	101	—
Glendovan	220	240	20	—
Inchtute	893	1000	107	—
40 Kenmore	3067	3463	396	—
Killin	1968	2360	392	—
Kilmadock	2730	3209	479	—
Kilspindie	828	718	—	110
Kincardine	1250	2068	818	—
45 Kinclaven	993	1150	157	—
Kinfauns	639	628	—	11
Kinloch	331	372	41	—
Kinnaird	557	404	—	153
Kinnoul	1163	1465	302	—
50 Kirkmichael	2689	2200	—	489
Lecropt	577	420	—	157
Lethendy	346	367	21	—
Logie	1985	1500	—	485
Logierait	2487	2200	—	287
55 Longforgan	1285	1526	241	—
Maderty	796	631	—	165
Meigle	1285	1148	—	137
Methven	1790	1786	—	4
Monedie	1492	1320	—	172
60 Monivaird	1460	1025	—	435
Monzie	1192	1136	—	56
Moulin	2109	1749	—	360
Muckhart	535	526	—	9
Muthil	2902	2948	46	—
65 Perth	9019	19,871	10,852	—
Port	1865	1765	—	100
Rattray	751	500	—	251
Redgorton	1074	2123	1049	—
Rhind	498	495	—	3
70 St Madoes	189	300	111	—
St Martins	1083	1090	7	—
Scone	889	1442	553	—
Tippermuir	988	1280	292	—

75 Trinity

County of Perth, &c.

615

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
Trinity Gask	913	795	—	118
75 Tulliallan	1321	2430	1109	—
76 Weem	1295	1364	69	—
	<u>118,903</u>	<u>133,274</u>	<u>22,546</u>	<u>8175</u>
		<u>118,903</u>	<u>8175</u>	
	Increase,	14,371	14,371	

COUNTY OF RENFREW.

1 Cathcart	499	697	198	—
Eaglesham	1103	1000	—	103
Eastwood	1142	2642	1500	—
Erskine	829	808	—	21
5 Greenock	3858	15,000	11,142	—
Houstoun	947	1034	87	—
Inchinnan	397	306	—	91
Innerkip	1590	1280	—	310
Kilbarchan	1485	2506	1021	—
10 Kilmalcolm	1495	951	—	544
Lochwinioch	1530	2613	1083	—
Mearns	886	1430	544	—
Neilston	1299	2330	1031	—
Paisley	4290	13,800	9510	—
15 D ^o Abbey	2509	10,792	8283	—
Port-Glasgow	1695	4036	2341	—
17 Renfrew	1091	1628	537	—
	<u>26,645</u>	<u>62,853</u>	<u>37,277</u>	<u>1069</u>
		<u>26,645</u>	<u>1069</u>	
	Increase,	36,208	36,208	

COUNTY

COUNTY OF ROSS.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Anefs	1090	1121	31	—
Applecrofs	835	1734	899	—
Avoch	1457	1380	—	77
Contin	1949	2500	551	—
5 Dingwall	1030	1379	349	—
Eddertown	780	1000	220	—
Fearn	1898	1600	—	298
Gairloch	2050	2200	150	—
Glenfheil	509	721	212	—
10 Killearnan	945	1147	202	—
Kilmuir, Easter	1095	1975	880	—
Kilmuir, Wester	1367	1805	438	—
Kiltearn	1570	1616	46	—
Kineardine	1743	1600	—	143
15 Kintail	698	840	142	—
Kirkmichael	1371	1234	—	137
Lochalsh	613	1334	721	—
Lochbroom	2211	3500	1289	—
Lochcarron	771	1068	297	—
20 Logie, Easter	850	1125	275	—
Nigg	1261	1133	—	128
Rosekeen	1958	1700	—	258
Rosemarkie	1140	1262	122	—
Tain	1870	2100	230	—
25 Urquhart	2590	2901	311	—
Urray	2456	1860	—	596
ISLAND OF LEWIS.				
Barvas	1995	2006	11	—
Lochs	1267	1768	501	—
Stornoway	1812	2639	827	—
30 Uig	1312	1898	586	—
	42,493	50,146	9290	1637
		42,493	1637	
		Increase, 7653	7653	

COUNTY

COUNTY OF ROXBURGH.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Ancrum	1066	1146	80	—
Askirk	629	539	—	90
Bedrule	297	259	—	38
Bowden	672	860	188	—
5 Castleton	1507	1418	—	89
Cavers	993	1300	307	—
Crailing	387	672	285	—
Ednam	387	600	213	—
Eckfoord	1083	952	—	131
10 Hawick	2713	2928	215	—
Hobkirk	530	700	170	—
Hownam	632	365	—	267
Jedburgh	5816	3288	—	2528
Kelso	2781	4324	1543	—
15 Kirkton	330	342	12	—
Leffuden	309	500	191	—
Liliesleaf	521	630	109	—
Linton	413	383	—	30
Makerston	165	255	90	—
20 Maxton	397	326	—	71
Melrose	2322	2446	124	—
Minto	395	513	118	—
Morbattle	789	789	—	—
Oxnam	760	690	—	70
25 Roberton	651	629	—	22
Roxburgh	784	840	56	—
Smailholm	551	421	—	130
Southdean	669	714	45	—
Sprouftoun	1089	1000	—	89
30 Wilton	936	1215	279	—
31 Yetholm	699	976	277	—
	<u>31,273</u>	<u>32,020</u>	<u>4302</u>	<u>3555</u>
		<u>31,273</u>	<u>3555</u>	
		Increase, 747	747	

COUNTY

COUNTY OF SELKIRK.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Etterick	397	470	73	—
Galashiels	998	914	—	84
Selkirk	1793	1700	—	93
4 Yarrow	1180	1230	50	—
	—	—	—	—
	4368	4314	123	177
	4314	—	—	123
	Decrease, 54	—	—	54

COUNTY OF STIRLING.

1 Airth	2316	2350	34	—
Alva	436	612	176	—
Baldernock	621	620	—	1
Balfron	755	1381	626	—
5 Bothkennar	529	600	71	—
Buchanan	1699	1111	—	588
Campsie	1399	2517	1118	—
Denny	1392	1400	8	—
Drymen	2789	1607	—	1182
10 Falkirk	3932	8020	4088	—
Fintry	891	543	—	348
Gargunnoch	956	830	—	126
Killearn	959	973	14	—
Kilsyth	1395	2450	1055	—
15 Kippen	1799	1777	—	22
Larbert and Dunipace	1864	4000	2136	—
Muiravonside	1539	1065	—	474
Polmont	1094	1400	306	—
St Ninians	6491	7079	588	—
20 Slamannan	1209	1010	—	199
Stirling	3951	4698	747	—
22 Strathblane	797	620	—	177
	38,813	46,663	10,967	3117
	—	38,813	3117	—
	Increase, 7850	7850	—	—

COUNTY

COUNTY OF SUTHERLAND.

Parish.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Affint	1934	3000	1066	—
Clyne	1406	1660	254	—
Greich	1705	1730	25	—
Durness	1000	1182	182	—
5 Dornoch	2780	2541	—	239
Edderachylis	869	1024	155	—
Farr	2800	2600	—	200
Golspie	1790	1700	—	90
Kildonan	1433	1365	—	68
10 Lairg	1010	1350	340	—
Loth	1193	1370	177	—
Rogart	1761	2000	239	—
13 Tongue	1093	1439	346	—
	20,774	22,961	2784	597
		20,774	597	—
		Increase, 2187	2187	—

COUNTY OF WIGTON.

1 Glafferton	809	900	91	—
Inch	1513	1450	—	63
Kirkcolm	765	945	180	—
Kirkinner	792	1152	360	—
5 Kirkmaiden	1051	1380	329	—
Kirkowan	795	690	—	105
Lefwalt	652	1194	542	—
Luce, New	459	400	—	59
Luce, Old	1509	1200	—	309
10 Mochrum	828	1400	572	—
Penninghame	1509	2000	491	—
Port-Patrick	611	996	385	—
Sorbie	968	1069	101	—
Stranraer	610	1602	992	—
15 Stoneykirk	1151	1365	214	—
Whithorn	1412	1890	478	—
17 Wigton	1032	1350	318	—
	16,466	20,983	5053	536
		16,466	536	—
		Increase, 4517	4517	—

S C O T L A N D.

Counties.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Aberdeen	116,836	122,921	6085	—
Air	59,268	75,544	16,276	—
Argyle	63,291	76,101	12,810	—
Banff	36,521	38,487	1966	—
5 Berwick	24,946	30,875	5929	—
Bute and Arran	6866	19,563	3697	—
Caithness	22,215	24,802	2587	—
Clackmannan	9003	8749	—	254
Cromarty	5163	5284	121	—
10 Dumfries	41,913	52,329	10,416	—
Dunbarton	13,857	18,408	4551	—
Edinburgh	90,412	122,655	32,243	—
Elgin	28,934	26,080	—	2854
Fife	81,570	87,250	5680	—
15 Forfar	68,297	91,001	22,704	—
Haddington	29,709	28,966	—	743
Inverness	64,656	73,979	9323	—
Kincardine	24,346	26,799	2453	—
Kinross	4889	5392	413	—
20 Kirkcudbright	21,205	26,959	5754	—
Lanark	81,726	125,254	43,528	—
Linlithgow	16,829	17,570	741	—

Nairn

Counties.	Population in 1755.	Population in 1790—1798.	Increase.	Decrease.
Nairn	5694	6054	360	—
Orkney and Shetland	38,591	43,239	4648	—
25 Peebles	8908	8107	—	801
Perth	118,903	133,274	14,371	—
Renfrew	26,645	62,853	36,208	—
Rofs	42,493	50,146	7653	—
Roxburgh	31,273	32,020	747	—
30 Selkirk	4368	4314	—	54
Stirling	38,813	46,663	7850	—
Sutherland	20,774	22,961	2186	—
33 Wigton	16,466	20,983	4517	—
Total,	1,265,380	1,526,492	265,818	4706
		1,265,380	4706	
	Increase,	261,112	261,112	

END OF VOLUME TWENTIETH.





Sinclair, John, Sir, 1754-1835

The statistical account of Scotland drawn up from the communication of the
ministers of the different parishes

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